FRIDAY
September 12, 2025

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**Release Indians from Army: MEA to Moscow**

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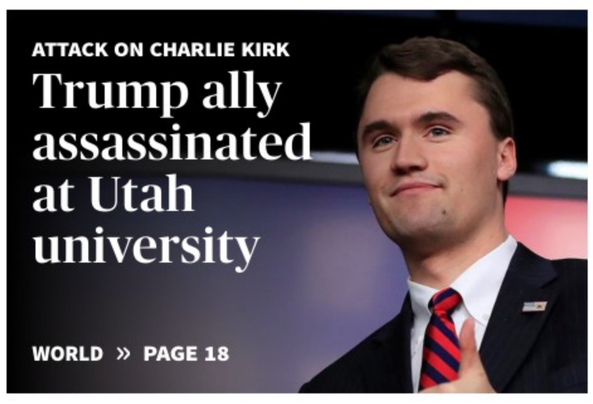

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CENTRAL IN COMMAND

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## NEARBY

### Fadnavis flays renaming of metro station

BENGALURU/MUMBAI
Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis hit out at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for the proposal to rename Shivajinagar Metro Station as St. Mary Station. » PAGE 2

### C.T. Ravi booked for inflammatory speech

MYSURU
The Maddur Police have *suo motu* registered a case against BJP leader and MLC C.T.Ravi for his inflammatory and provocative speech during the Ganesha immersion procession in the town on Wednesday.

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# President urges restraint as crisis persists in Nepal

Poudel says efforts are on to address protesters' demands as quickly as possible, while staying within the constitutional framework; Gen Z movement divided on the leader of interim govt.

**Sanjeev Satgainya**
KATHMANDU

Members of Nepal's Gen Z movement, whose massive protests led to the fall of the K.P. Sharma Oli government on Tuesday, remained divided on who should lead the next interim administration, even as President Ram Chandra Poudel on Thursday urged restraint in order to restore order and security.

Nepal has experienced an uneasy calm over the past two days after youth-led protests turned violent, with the death toll rising to 34. But the political crisis remains unresolved.

Amid growing calls for Mr. Poudel to address the nation, his office issued a statement on Thursday afternoon. "I urge everyone to remain confident that efforts are under way to address the protesters' demands as quickly as possible, while staying within the constitutional framework," said Mr. Poudel. "I am engaged in consultations and deliberations regarding the challenging situation that has arisen following the Gen Z movement," the statement said.

People queue up at a fuel station amid extended prohibitory orders on public movement in Birgunj in Nepal on Thursday. PTI

### Army's role

With the Nepal Army appointed as the chief negotiator to help identify a leader for the interim government, many are questioning whether it is an appropriate or constitutional role for the military.

Meanwhile, Gen Z campaigners remained divided – both over who should head the interim government and whether to negotiate with the President or the military.

Nepal's youth took to the streets on September 8, after weeks of online consultations, demanding "an end to corruption and misgovernance". The protests were triggered by the Oli government's controversial social media ban. Protests turned violent on Tuesday, with campaigners alleging infiltration by "unwanted forces". By the time Mr. Oli resigned, much of the state's infrastructure was under attack.

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PRISON ESCAPEES HELD
» PAGE 14

# SC will not sit idle if a wing of democracy fails to do its duty: CJI

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court will not "sit idle" and powerless if a constitutional authority fails to discharge his duties, no matter how high he may be, Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai has said. The CJI voiced the court's firm resolve on the final day of a Presidential Reference hearing, which has brought into sharp focus the schism between non-BJP-ruled States and their Governors over delay in clearing crucial laws.

> If one wing of democracy fails in the discharge of its duties, would the court, which is the custodian of the Constitution, be powerless and forced to sit idle?
>
> **B.R. GAVAI**
> Chief Justice of India

### 'Separation of powers'

"Howsoever high an authority may be, he is not above the law... I am a strong believer in the doctrine of separation of powers. I believe that judicial activism must not turn into judicial terrorism. But at the same time, if one wing of democracy fails in the discharge of his duties, would the court, which is the custodian of the Constitution, be powerless and forced to sit idle," the CJI asked the Union government on Thursday.

The Union government has used the hearing to criticise the top court for encroaching on the domains of Governors and the President.

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# Karnataka Rathna for Saroja Devi, Vishnuvardhan

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Cabinet on Thursday decided to confer the State's highest civilian award 'Karnataka Rathna' posthumously on popular Kannada film actors Vishnuvardhan and B. Sarojadevi.

While Vishnuvardhan died in December 2009, Saroja Devi passed away in July this year.

Vishnuvardhan acted in over 200 films in his four-decade-long career and Saroja Devi starred in more than 200 films in a career spanning six decades.

The Cabinet also decided to recommend to the Centre to confer Bharat Ratna posthumously on Kannada literary icon Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa popularly known as Kuvempu.

Kuvempu is the first Kannada writer to receive the Jnanpith Award.

## *Festive crafting*

An artisan prepares an idol of Goddess Durga ahead of the Navaratri festival in Bengaluru. Navratri is a nine-night Hindu festival celebrating the goddess, symbolising the triumph of good over evil. K. MURALI KUMAR

# Cabinet sub-panel to study regularisation or job safety for 3.8 lakh contract workers

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Contemplating to provide either job security or regularisation of work to about 3.8 lakh employees working for the government on contract basis in various corporations, boards and departments, the State government on Thursday decided to form a Cabinet sub-committee to study the possibilities and come up with recommendations.

This move is aimed at curbing the manpower outsourcing lobby that currently provides people on contract.

Among the proposals before the government is to start a multi-purpose cooperative societies at the district level through which the manpower could be hired.

H.K. Patil

"To study the possibility of regularising the work or providing some sort of job security is before the government. The Cabinet sub-committee will consider all possibilities," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told presspersons during the post-Cabinet briefing.

### Hazardous units

Priority, government sources said, is to regularise the contract employment of those working in hazardous or risky occupations such as those in the Energy Department. They include linemen, gangmen, station operators and station assistants. The proposal has come up in the light of Supreme Court direction stating that the government is the principal employer to the contract labour. Sourcing of manpower through societies would entail job security to the employees.

The Cabinet also approved the draft notification of The biodiesel (B100) blending with high-speed diesel for transportation purposes (Lincensing) Order, 2025 that would enable production of biodiesel, blending with high-speed diesel and retail sale of the blend, which would be made available outside petroleum outlets. The biodiesel is produced from non-edible vegetable oils, acid oils, used cooking oil, animal fat and fatty acids derived from the bio-oils.

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# Super Mom Osaka — swinging better and serving a notice again

The star from The Land of the Rising Sun, who has been on a dream run in recent times, will be determined to build on the positives and get back to the top of the ladder

AFP

C. Shyam Sundar

Labubu was one of the talking points of the just-concluded US Open. So was Naomi Osaka.

The No. 23 seed made heads turn with her stirring run in New York before coming up short in the semifinal against local favourite Amanda Anisimova. From languishing in the low 800s after being away from the game for 17 months on maternity leave, Osaka has soared to 14th in the world rankings after her impressive performance in New York. The 27-year-old will be aiming to build on her form and plot her way back to where she belonged once in the sport - the top.

Importantly, the former World No. 1 is taking a lot of inspiration from her defeats. The most recent one at the hands of Anisimova appears to have given her the belief that she still has it in her to win Grand Slam titles.

Osaka went down in a near three-hour battle despite blasting more aces than her opponent and committing fewer unforced errors. She chose to focus on the positives despite the heartbreaking defeat.

"I don't feel sad. I just feel that I did the best that I could," Osaka said after the match. "Honestly, it's kind of inspiring for me because it makes me want to train and try to get better... give it my very best shot again and see what happens. I can't be mad or upset at myself."

GETTY IMAGES

She was away from the sport for an extended period following the birth of her daughter, only returning to the tour in January 2024. The comeback, however, wasn't smooth. She was unable to win the matches where she looked the favourite and moving up the rankings ladder was slower than expected.

"When all the moms came back (to the tour after giving birth) and they did well kind of off the bat, I sort of felt like there was something wrong with me," Osaka had said after her quarterfinal win over 11th seed Karolina Muchova.

"I know that Belinda (Bencic, who gave birth in April 2024) made the semifinal of Wimbledon (2025, her second Grand Slam appearance since returning to the tour). I just really felt like I was losing a race in some sort of weird way. That was on my mind, and now I'm here and I feel like a weight's been lifted off my shoulders."

Before the defeat to Anisimova at the US Open, a second-round loss to Emma Raducanu in Washington, in July, seemed to have served her well.

"I called a round-table of my team, and I was just very confused (about) how confident I was in myself," Osaka said during the New York campaign. "Because, even though I lost, I remember telling them, 'I think I can beat anyone from the baseline still, and we just have to figure out if I have to change my game plan or if I just have to do something new and different.'"

That prompted the decision to bring in as her coach Tomasz Wiktorowski, who previously worked with Iga Swiatek. Osaka said that Wiktorowski had helped her become more efficient when returning serve and be more patient in rallies. They have worked together in only two tournaments so far and the results have been impressive. Osaka reached the final of the Montreal Masters, which helped her earn a seeding at a Grand Slam for the first time since the 2022 Australian Open. And her deep run in the season's last Major could provide the impetus that she is looking for and could be the springboard for increased success and possibly tournament victories.

"Getting far in the US Open was definitely a confidence booster. But the season's not done yet," she said after the exit at the US Open. "I don't know what ranking I'm up at, but I think I'm getting up there. Doing well in the Asian swing and then closing off the rest of the year is my goal now," Osaka said, looking ahead to the rest of the season.

Having won four Grand Slam singles titles (two each at the US Open and Australian Open), Osaka will be keen to better her record at the French Open, where her best showing thus far has been reaching the third round, and also at Wimbledon, which hasn't seen her advance past the third round.

The power-hitting Japanese has seen it all since her spectacular rise. After breaking through with a title run at the 2018 US Open, she scaled the peak of the sport and looked set to rule before things began to go pear-shaped. Indifferent form and injuries pegged her back. That wasn't all. She grappled with mental health issues, too. She walked away from the sport early in 2023 due to pregnancy and would return only in January 2024. After a season with mixed results and more lows than highs, Osaka pulled the curtains down on the (2024) season early due to a back injury.

This year began on a promising note as she reached the final of the Auckland Open before falling to Clara Tauson. It was the first time she advanced to a final since 2022. However, she was forced to retire mid-way due to an injury.

While a third-round appearance at the Australian Open followed, tournament success continued to elude her. Things turned around at the WTA 125 Open de Saint-Malo, where she won her first title since the 2021 Australian Open.

After the Canadian Open, she progressed to the final before the fast-rising Victoria Mboko stopped her run. She built on the performance in the final Major of the year.

She came up with commanding displays in the first two rounds with straight set wins before Daria Kasatkina came in her way. After sweeping the first set without dropping a game, she held off a fighting Kasatkina. Then came the high-profile clash against Coco Gauff, which saw Osaka dismantle the third-seeded American in straight sets in a clinical display.

"These are the moments that I play tennis for," she said after crushing Gauff. It was a sign that she was back to her best and could take on and beat the best in the business.

She carried her good form into the semis and was involved in an intense battle against Anisimova before coming up short. Though she failed to emulate Kim Clijsters in winning a Slam after becoming a mother, like the Belgian did in 2009, 2010 and 2011, Osaka's splendid run at Flushing Meadows will give her hope of doing that very soon.

Recent years have seen several players lay their hands on Grand Slam singles trophies, with there being no duopoly like in the men's game, where Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner have pulled away from the rest of the field.

Osaka could once again break into the winner's circle at the Majors, if she can fend off the challenges posed by World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka, Swiatek, Gauff and Jessica Pegula, the current leading names on the women's circuit.

How Osaka fares in the rest of the 2025 season and her ability to handle seasoned opponents would provide answers to the question of whether she could return to the elite. But given her good showing in New York, that could be within the realms of possibility.

The tennis star from the Land of the Rising Sun is primed to rise to the top of the sport again, having been ranked the No. 1 for 25 weeks earlier, and maybe carry more Labubus to Slams.

REUTERS

## THE GIST

- Osaka is taking a lot of inspiration from her defeats. And, the most recent defeat at the hands of Anisimova appears to give her the belief that she still has it in her to win Grand Slam titles
- Though she failed to emulate Kim Clijsters in winning a Slam after becoming a mother like the Belgian did in 2009, 2010 and 2011, Osaka's splendid run at the Flushing Meadows would sure give her hope of doing that in course of time
- How Osaka fares in the rest of the 2025 season and her ability to handle opponents like Sabalenka, Swiatek and others would provide answers to the question if she could return to the elite

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## Technical snag: Brief delay on Yellow Line

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Namma Metro services on the Yellow Line experienced a brief disruption on Thursday evening following a technical snag.

According to the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), a seven-minute delay occurred between 6.41 p.m. and 6.48 p.m. due to a door authorisation issue in one of the trains at Jayadeva Metro Station. The train was approaching R.V. Road station when the glitch was reported.

BMRCL stated that services were quickly restored after rectifying the problem,"There was a delay of seven minutes on the Yellow Line today between 6.41 p.m. and 6.48 p.m. due to a door authorisation issue in one of the trains at Jayadeva Metro Station for the train approaching R.V. Road. From 18:48 hrs, the normalcy has been restored," stated in a statement.

# Fadnavis condemns renaming of Shivajinagar Metro Station

Shiv Sena UBT, an ally of the Congress, has appealed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to reconsider the proposal

**Vinaya Deshpande**
**Darshan Devaiah B.P.**
MUMBAI/BENGALURU

Devendra Fadnavis

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thursday hit out at Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for the proposal to rename the proposed Shivajinagar Metro Station in Bengaluru as St. Mary Station.

Speaking to reporters in Mumbai, Mr. Fadnavis accused Mr. Siddaramaiah of setting up an alternative religious system and drawing a wedge between communities. "I strongly condemn the decision to rename Shivajinagar station as St. Mary station. What the Congress government in Karnataka is trying to do is insult Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. I am pained by it, but am not surprised. The tradition of insulting Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj has been existent in Congress since pre-independence times, may it be Jawaharlal Nehru. He had made such kinds of statements against Shivaji Maharaj in his book *Discovery of India*," Mr. Fadnavis said when asked about the proposal.

He accused the Karnataka CM of driving a wedge between communities. "I pray to God to give good sense to the Congress Chief Minister. The country saw 'Swarajya' because of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. For him to replace the name of the station with another name is an attempt to set up an alternative religious system and to draw a wedge between communities. I pray that he does not end up doing it," he said.

Meanwhile, Shiv Sena UBT, an ally of the Congress, has appealed to the Karnataka CM to reconsider the proposal. "History will not forgive you if you rename the station," Anand Dubey, spokesperson of the Shiv Sena UBT, said on Thursday.

Mr. Dubey appealed to Mr. Siddaramaiah to keep the name of the station after Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. "We want to tell the Karnataka CM, you are our neighbour, our ally. Please keep the name after Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. This is a matter concerning our sentiments, our self-respect. Maharashtra and Karnataka have always enjoyed good relations. Please respect our sentiments, and we will respect yours. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is deified not just in Maharashtra, but in the entire country. He formulated Hindavi Swarajya. The entire world knows about it. Please name the metro station after him. It will send out a good message across the country. If you fail to do it, history will not forgive you," Anand Dubey, spokesperson of the party, said.

He said the party did not want to politicise the issue, and appealed to the BJP not to do so. "BJP has no moral right to say anything about Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. They have not yet completed the monument of Maharaj in the Arabian Sea. They should stop using his name for political gains," he said.

Shivajinagar Metro Station is an upcoming underground station on the Pink Line of Bengaluru metro, also called 'Namma Metro', where construction work is currently under way.

The station is named after the Shivajinagar area, surrounded by key landmarks such as Commercial Street, M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, and St. Mary's Basilica in the city.

On Monday, while participating in the annual feast celebrations at St. Mary's Basilica, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah promised to rename the station after St. Mary. However, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), the agency responsible for implementing, building, operating, and expanding the city's metro network, has not issued an official statement regarding this proposal.

## Bescom lineman arrested for burying body of man who fell from electricity pole

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

While investigating a missing person's complaint, the Gudibande Police arrested a 34-year-old Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) lineman from Beechaganahalli for allegedly burying the body of a 27-year-old labourer after the latter slipped and fell from an electricity pole while repairing a line in Polampalli village of Chickballapur district on Monday.

The incident came to light when Gangaraju, a farmer, reported to the police on Wednesday that his younger brother Anil B.A. was missing.

Anil, a daily-wage labourer, reportedly went missing after going to work on Monday. Not being able to reach him through his phone, Anil's family approached the police. Based on the complaint, the police began investigating which revealed that Anil was last seen with Bescom lineman Chandrakumar.

When the police tried to contact Chandrakumar, he could not be found. Suspecting foul play, the police managed to track him down, following which, a detailed questioning allegedly led him to confess to the crime.

Chandrakumar reportedly told the police that he received a complaint about a faulty line on a pole and asked Anil to climb up and fix the line in exchange of money.

Further inquiries revealed that Anil was working as a helper to Chandrakumar after the latter suffered an injury two years ago.

While climbing down from the pole, Anil reportedly slipped and fell, sustaining a head injury in the process. Chandrakumar claimed that he attempted to take Anil to the hospital on a bike, but he died on the way. Out of fear, Chandrakumar allegedly buried Anil's body near a lake on the outskirts of Bandarlahalli village.

Anil was not trained to take up such risky jobs, a police officer said.

"The accused has been arrested, and a case has been registered under sections of the BNS. Exhumation of the body and post-mortem has been done to ascertain the cause of death," Superintendent of Police Kushal Chowksey said.

## City woman duped of ₹3.75 crore using Jaggi Vasudev's deepfake video

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

**The fraud came to light when the victim made futile attempts to withdraw the invested money and failed**

The East Division Cybercrime police have registered an FIR against a man for cheating a 57-year-old retired woman of ₹3.75 crore using an AI-generated deepfake video of spiritual leader Jaggi Vasudev, promising a huge returns on her investment.

The victim, Varsha Gupta, a resident of C.V. Raman Nagar, saw a video of Jaggi Vasudev while scrolling through social media, which showed him endorsing an investment company. "I watched a video of Jaggi Vasudev stating that he had been trading with the firm, for which a link is provided below, and if you click it and input your name, email, and phone number for an amount of $250, your finances will improve greatly," the woman said in her complaint.

Unaware that it was made using deepfake technology, she followed the instructions for investment. Soon, she was contacted by a person who called himself Waleed B., who claimed to represent a company called Mirrox which had multiple apps and comprised around 100 members as investors. Mr. Waleed B asked the complainant to download the Mirrox application and taught her how to trade through Zoom application.

Later Michael C., an associate of Waleed, contacted the complainant and would teach the woman about trading when Waleed was unavailable. Following these instructions, between February 25 and April 23, 2025, the woman invested a total of ₹3,75,72,121, from her State Bank of India and HSBC bank accounts to multiple unknown accounts provided in the Mirrox application.

The fraud came to light when the victim made futile attempts to withdraw the invested money and failed, and later checked with her family and friends only to realise that she had been duped.

## Jail staff arrested for smuggling drugs into central prison

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A jail staff member of the Parppana Agarahara Central Prison in Bengaluru has been arrested for smuggling hashish oil and gutka packets concealed in his peaked cap into the prison.

The accused, identified as Kalappa H. Abachi, was allegedly held with 100g of hashish oil worth ₹1 lakh and 12 packets of gutka wrapped in plastic tape and concealed in his peaked cap.

According to the police, Abachi, an ex-serviceman, had taken voluntary retirement and joined the Prison Department under the ex-servicemen quota in 2018. He had earlier served as a warder at Dharwad Prison and was transferred to Bengaluru Central Prison three months ago.

According to Parappana Agrahara police, Abachi was on duty at the prison, and the items were recovered during a security check on Sunday night.

A case was registered under the NDPS Act and Section 42 of the Karnataka Prisons Act. Probe revealed that Abachi was supposed to hand over the drugs to a Mangaluru-based under-trial lodged in the central prison. The police are analysing Abachi's call record details to track down the source.

## *Sunbathing*

**The stretch:** A couple of Indian white-eye, hyperactive little yellow birds with off-white belly and white 'spectacles' fluffing their feathers and stretching their wings under the sun in Bengaluru. K. MURALI KUMAR

## 'Project Khushi' for police personnel

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru city police, in association with Happiest Health, on Thursday launched 'Project Khushi,' a health and wellness programme designed to help police personnel prevent and manage lifestyle-related diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and metabolic disorders.

According to a release, the proposed project includes in-person expert-led classes and digital learning modules with six live sessions over three months led by specialists in endocrinology, nutrition, ayurveda, yoga, and mindfulness . Weekly digital modules are delivered via web stories, articles, videos and tips and a dedicated WhatsApp support group offering daily nudges, exercise prompts, and nutrition tips. It includes comprehensive health assessments at the start and conclusion of the programme, including tests for glycaemic control, organ function, thyroid health, vitamin levels.

Participants will undergo a comprehensive health test at the start and end of the program.

## Film-maker S. Narayan, family booked for dowry harassment

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

S. Narayan

The Jnana Bharathi police have registered a case of dowry harassment and cruelty against Kannada film-maker S. Narayan, his wife Bhagyalakshmi, and their son Pavan.

According to a complaint by Pavithra, wife of Pavan, they got married in 2021, and at that time, Pavan was unemployed so she used to take care of the household expenses and even gifted him a car.

Allegedly, Pavan later sought funds to start a film institute, Kala Samrat Team Academy. Pavithra's mother reportedly financed the venture, which was later shut down due to losses.

As per the complaint, at the time of marriage, Pavithra's family gave a ring worth ₹1 lakh and bore the wedding expenses. She even borrowed a loan and paid them ₹10 lakh to support Pavan and his family for a business, the complainant mentioned in the complaint.

Despite this, Narayan's family demanded money and harassed her, forcing her out of the house with her minor son, she said in the complaint.

Pavithra stayed with her mother and tried to get back to their house many times, but in vain, so she approached the police, the complaint said.

She lodged a complaint last week accusing them of harassment and torture.

# ETM upgrade key to rollout of Shakti scheme smart cards in State

**Darshan Devaiah B.P.**
BENGALURU

As of July 31, 2025, more than 516.95 crore trips were completed under the scheme. FILE PHOTO

More than two years after the launch of Karnataka's flagship Shakti Scheme, smart cards promised to women beneficiaries are yet to be distributed. The Transport Department has attributed the delay to the lack of compatible electronic ticketing machines (ETMs) across the four State-run road transport corporations.

While the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has already upgraded its ETMs, the rollout of uniform machines across the other corporations is yet to be completed.

The Shakti scheme, introduced on June 11, 2023, as the first of the Congress government's five guarantees, allows women, including transgender persons and students, to travel for free on non-premium State-run buses. The scheme has been immensely popular, recently earning a place in the Golden Book of World Records for ferrying the highest number of women passengers under a free-travel programme. As of July 31, 2025, over 516.95 crore trips were completed under the scheme.

Despite this success, the smart card system envisioned to streamline ticketing and data collection remains in the pipeline. Currently, female passengers can show any valid government-issued identity card to avail of a 'zero ticket' from conductors.

### Why the delay

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy said that the smart card plan is still on the table, but has been delayed. "The issuance of smart cards has been stalled because not all our ETMs can read and validate them. KSRTC has upgraded its machines, but similar ETMs need to be introduced across all four corporations for uniformity," Mr Reddy told *The Hindu*.

Earlier, the Transport Department, in collaboration with the Centre for e-Governance (CeG), developed prototypes of the cards. These cards, built on 'tap-and-travel' technology, would allow women passengers to tap their card on a conductor's ETM to validate their journey. The backend system has already been designed to handle registration, data collection, card procurement, and linking to central servers.

"The technology part is largely ready, including systems for registration, issuing, and linking data. What remains is ensuring that all four RTCs adopt the same ETMs, so that the cards can work seamlessly across the State," Mr. Reddy explained.

### Cabinet approval

To address these issues, the Transport Department conducted a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) meeting with officials from all four RTCs on August 2, 2024. The meeting highlighted the incompatibility of existing ETMs as the primary hurdle.

"Based on the suggestions at the meeting, KSRTC introduced new ETMs capable of reading smart cards. The procurement process for upgrading ETMs in the other corporations is underway. Once completed, smart cards can be rolled out," Mr. Reddy said.

The proposal to distribute the cards will soon be placed before the State Cabinet. "After Cabinet approval, the smart cards will be issued without delay," he assured.

While the scheme currently functions smoothly with the use of identity cards, officials admit that smart cards could improve efficiency. At present, conductors issue tickets after manually verifying ID cards of passengers, which often leads to longer boarding times.

### Benefits

"Smart cards will save time for both conductors and passengers. More importantly, they will allow the government to generate accurate data on usage patterns, routes, and beneficiary profiles. This data could also guide policy decisions on public transport planning," a senior Transport Department official said.

At the time of the scheme's launch, women were asked to register on the official portal and provide a valid government-issued ID to receive Shakti smart cards. However, due to the ETM issues, the smart card distribution has not taken place. Instead, the temporary arrangement of showing ID cards continues to this day.

Meanwhile, a recent study titled 'Beyond Free Rides: A Multi-State Assessment of Women's Bus Fare Subsidy Schemes in Urban India', commissioned by the Sustainable Mobility Network and conducted by Nikore Associates, found that the Shakti Scheme in Karnataka has led to a 23% rise in women's employment in Bengaluru and a 21% increase in Hubballi-Dharwad.

# Clearing the fog: need for revised strategies against *Aedes* mosquitoes

While top-down measures such as the use of Wolbachia mosquitoes are showing promise, they are hampered by high costs; at present personal protection and community mobilisation, removing larval breeding sites offer the best ways to combat *Aedes* mosquitoes and the diseases they transmit

**Srinivas R. Mummadi**

*Aedes*-borne viral diseases (ABVD) – dengue, Zika, and chikungunya – hurt India's productivity. Local governments and society focus their efforts on outdoor fumigation. This method persists, despite evidence that it is ineffective. It also does not have backing from national agencies as a routine measure.

The *Aedes* mosquito adapts well to human settings. It feeds indoors during the day, and at night under artificial light. Methods like outdoor fumigation, vaporizers, and bed nets are thus ineffective against it.

Top-down measures, such as the use of Wolbachia mosquitoes, which use a naturally-occurring bacteria, Wolbachia, to help suppress mosquito populations or help breed mosquitoes that cannot transmit diseases, show promise. But high costs and weak institutional support limit their adoption. Dengue vaccine trials are underway, but these offer no protection against Zika or chikungunya.

The best ways to fight *Aedes* mosquitoes at present therefore, are through personal protection and community mobilisation.

**Close look:** The *Aedes* mosquito has a short range of 100-200 metres. Actions to remove larval breeding sites can have a quick and powerful impact. FILE PHOTO

## THE GIST

The *Aedes* mosquito adapts well to human settings. It feeds indoors during the day, and at night under artificial light. Methods like outdoor fumigation, vaporizers, and bed nets are thus ineffective against them

Municipal corporations and resident welfare associations should stop depending only on fogging. By using a strategy with top-down and bottom-up features, a 100–200-metre safe zone can be created around vulnerable people

Loose clothing that covers as much of body as possible, safe non-insecticides, community action to remove larval breeding sites are some strategies that can be used

### First line of defence

Traditional pyrethroid-based vaporizers (commonly used in households) are of limited use, as *Aedes* activity is minimal at night and they are evolving tolerance to these chemicals. An effective strategy focuses on protecting us from mosquitoes rather than killing them.

Loose clothing that covers as much of our body as possible, from September to November is a sensible first step. Next, safe non-insecticides (topical repellents) can be applied on the skin. By releasing volatile compounds, these repellants impair the mosquito's sense of smell, making us essentially invisible to them. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends using several effective and safe *Aedes* repellents. DEET is the gold standard for insect repellents. Each year, more than 200 million people use it safely. A 20% concentration provides about six hours of protection.

Para-menthane-diol (PMD), derived from the essential oil of the lemon eucalyptus plant (OLE/citronellal) is also effective. It is one of the three plant-based repellents endorsed by the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention. Picaridin, a compound similar to piperine found in black pepper, and 2-undecanone, extracted from the wild tomato plant, are also effective *Aedes* repellents. IR3535, derived from the naturally occurring amino acid β-alanine, also works well.

Global public health agencies and experts approve DEET (20%), picaridin, 2-undecanone, and IR3535 for use in breastfeeding, pregnant women, and children. Agencies do not recommend OLE/PMD/citronellal in children under 3 years of age.

In contrast, many well-known natural products, including citronella oil, are unreliable. They tend to lose their effectiveness within 1-2 hours due to evaporation from the skin. Undiluted concentrations cause severe skin irritation. Experts advise against using them until high-quality studies and safety tests are available.

The *Aedes* mosquito has a short range of 100-200 metres. Thus, local community actions to remove larval breeding sites can have a quick and powerful impact.

The influential Camino Verde randomised study (RCT) tested community actions. Trained local leaders taught communities about mosquito behaviour and larval breeding sites. Households removed stagnant water from plant pots. They also cleaned and covered indoor and outdoor water containers. Finally, they got rid of discarded plastic bottles and tyres. These efforts reduced dengue infections by 29%. A similar RCT from Chennai showed reduced larval breeding. Using effective lids on water containers cut the odds of larval presence by 94% in another study.

Surprisingly, the Camino Verde study found that the larvicide temephos (a chemical that kills mosquito larva) increased the risk of dengue. Researchers concluded that the most likely reason was a false sense of security among users, leading them to let their guard down. Many studies from South Asia since then have confirmed that Aedes larvae can develop resistance to temephos.

Plastic pollution is directly linked to the risk of ABVD transmission. Studies show

**Aedes-borne viral diseases (ABVD) – dengue, Zika, and chikungunya hurt the productivity of the country**

discarded plastics predict dengue epidemics, and regular trash collection/flood management protect against ABVD.

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's 2017 monograph India Fights Dengue has additional India-specific recommendations for larval source control. These include removing discarded coconut shells, cleaning air coolers, and not reusing the grass in air coolers for a new season. India's Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) network could help turn these guidelines into real change at home and in communities.

A public health campaign from Delhi, supported by Indian government agencies, provides a model for other Indian cities. Called the rule of 10 – "10 Weeks, 10 AM, 10 Minutes," it reinforces larval source reduction as the primary strategy. It encourages every residential welfare association to mobilise each household to set aside 10 minutes at 10 AM every Sunday for 10 weeks from September to November. The goal is to find and eliminate sources of stagnant water during this high-risk season.

### Local to national action

Municipal corporations and resident welfare associations should stop depending only on fogging. Instead, they should focus on reducing larval burden, with fogging used as a tactic during outbreaks alone. Local experts can assist by reinforcing a key "bottom-up" approach. This involves teaching people about effective and affordable personal repellents and reinforcing whole-body clothing during September-November. Urban dwellers need education about stagnant water around indoor plants, flower vases, and sinks.

The global gold standard DEET is difficult to find in Indian markets. This is most likely due to consumer preference based on misinformation. Misleading "natural" and "DEET-free" products in Indian stores overwhelm the consumer. We need education to combat the unfounded fear of DEET. Effective natural/nature-inspired repellents like picaridin, PMD, IR3535, and 2-undecanone are also not available in India.

Materials coated with delayed-release transfluthrin are now gaining attention. These "spatial emanators," like jute sheets, provide 15-days of continued protection in living spaces. There is no need to turn on a vaporizer every night if one uses them. A landmark study from Peru showed that these emanators cut ABVD risk by an impressive 34%. Wolbachia mosquitoes are already in use in 15 countries with successful results. India needs top-down initiatives to study, approve, and reduce the cost of these innovations.

By using a strategy with top-down and bottom-up features, we can create a 100-200-metre safe zone around all of us. We need to clear the fog of outdated practices and reclaim our homes from this persistent threat.

*(Dr.Srinivas R Mummadi is a pulmonary and critical care physician based in Hyderabad, India. m.srinivasreddy@gmail.com)*

# Looking beyond suicide helplines to tackle mental health issues and care

**WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY**

**The Hindu Bureau**

A 25-year-old woman from Hyderabad, an MBBS graduate preparing an exam, had been struggling with depression, crying spells, and suicidal thoughts for over two years. This was worsened by personal setbacks and a strained relationship with her mother. Although she had tried medications and online therapy, she had discontinued both, finding little benefit.

She then reached out to Tele-MANAS, the government's round-the-clock mental health helpline. Here, on a call, she was able to open up to a psychiatrist, who provided a patient ear and coping strategies. She was counselled to communicate with her father and to gradually rebuild her relationship with her mother.

Follow-up calls revealed a marked improvement. She reported feeling significantly better. The helpline also remains open for her to reconnect in future.

Mental health helplines have been an important resource to help those in distress. Multiple helplines operate across States, some run by State governments and others by NGOs, in addition to the Tele-MANAS helpline, which was launched by the Central government in 2022. But while they provide critical and timely help to thousands, this World Suicide Prevention Day, experts say there are some gaps that need plugging and that helplines must be part of a broader, systemic approach to tackling mental health issues and suicide in particular, in order to provide better care for all.

**Call for help:** While helplines provide essential immediate care, they must be part of a wider, systemic approach. FILE PHOTO

### Gaps in the system

One critical gap is a shortage of trained mental health professionals. Estimates indicate that India has 0.75 psychiatrists per 1,00,000 population, dismally lower than the World Health Organization's recommended 3. There is also a shortage of clinical psychologists and psychiatric nurses. In Kerala for instance, this shortage is a huge problem in the mental health sector, says P.S. Indu, professor of psychiatry, Government Medical College, Kasaragod.

"At present, we are training persons with MSW or MA psychology degrees to help people with mental health troubles. What we actually need are more clinical psychologists who can be trained to offer therapy, help people manage their thoughts better and improve their general sense of well being," Dr. Indu says. Another issue is inadequate resources. V. K. Gupta, founder-director, Silverstreak Multispeciality Hospital, Gurgaon, says that while a compassionate voice and emotional support at the right time can make the difference between life and death, helplines alone cannot be the solution to India's growing suicide crisis. While helplines provide essential immediate care, they must be part of a wider, systemic approach, he points out.

Devdeep Roy Chowdhury, senior clinical psychologist at Monoshij, a platform for mental health services based in Kolkata says that a lack of resources and experts who can volunteer for this work, offering free help, is the problem. "There is a window of crisis when people make the call. At that point, if the helpline does not work, it can feel like the whole society is failing you," he says.

### Efforts in States

Broader, community efforts have been trialled in some States, often linking existing or new services to the Tele-MANAS helpline, to stem suicide numbers.

In Karnataka for instance, where the suicide rate stands at 20.2 per lakh population as of 2022, significantly higher than the national average of 12.4, several initiatives have been tried.

Anish V. Cherian, additional professor of psychiatric social work at NIMHANS, who is spearheading N-SPRITE, the NIMHANS Suicide Prevention, Research, Implementation, Training, and Engagement Centre, says one such was the SURAKSHA project a comprehensive community-based suicide prevention model in Ramanagara district of Karnataka.

Another project with the NIMHANS in collaboration with the Health Department managed to counsel and save the lives of over 15,623 persons who reported repeated suicide attempts or self-harm in 19 government hospitals across 11 districts.

Kerala too, has community-level interventions. Jeevanraksha, a district-level service has community gatekeepers stepping in to prevent suicides. Trained people are given periodic refresher training to recognise warning signs of suicide, give psychological first aid and refer people to professionals.

In Tamil Nadu, TeleMANAS also collaborates with the helplines of the School Education and Social Welfare Departments."We have been reaching out to students who were unsuccessful in the Class X and XII board examinations, and those who appeared for NEET. We counsel and follow up with students for at least a month," says V. Venkatesh Mathan Kumar, psychiatrist.

### The road ahead

While Vishal Akula, National Direct Council Member of the Indian Psychiatric Society, notes that awareness is growing and many more people are now approaching psychiatrists for timely help, reflecting a positive change in society, more needs to be done.

Suicides are not a one dimensional affair, points out P.S. Kiran, Kerala's State Nodal Officer for Mental Health. They are multifactorial, and solutions must reflect this. "We must acknowledge that suicide is not only a mental health issue but also deeply rooted in social determinants such as poverty, discrimination, gender inequity, and isolation," says Dr. Gupta. Addressing systemic drivers of distress must be undertaken, he says, adding that suicide prevention must include building an ecosystem of empathy, inclusion, and timely care.

Increasing government funding for awareness and trained human resources, building strong school and college-level mental health programmes, addressing social determinants, and above all, combating stigma are some steps that need to be urgently undertaken, say experts.

*(With inputs from C. Maya in Thiruvananthapuram, Afshan Yasmeen in Bengaluru, Bindu Shajan Perappadan in Delhi, Serena Josephine M. in Chennai, Siddharth Kumar Singh in Hyderabad and Shrabana Chatterjee in Kolkata)*
*(health@thehindu.co.in)*

*Those in distress can call the following numbers: Tele-MANAS: 1800-89-14416; Tamil Nadu health helpline - 104; Karnataka: Arogya Sahayavani - 104; Kerala: Maithri - 0484-2540530; New Delhi: Sanjivini - 011-4076 9002; Kolkata Lifeline Foundation - 033-24637401)*

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# Text&Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

### Green area declared as a Biodiversity Heritage Site in Bengaluru

**8.61** In acres. The Karnataka government has declared a green area with 371 trees near the Cantonment railway station as a Biodiversity Heritage Site. The move followed strong public support after activists opposed plans to lease the land for commercial use. PTI

### Loan agreement signed between India and ADB for tourism

**126.42** In U.S. million dollars. India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a loan agreement to promote sustainable tourism and rural development in the Tehri Lake region of Uttarakhand. PTI

### Losses from cybercrime in southwest Delhi

**30** In ₹ crores. Residents of southwest Delhi lost nearly 30 crores to cybercrime in just over two-and-a-half years, police data show. In 2025 alone, 90 cases were registered till September 4, with fraudsters duping victims of ₹5.07 crore. Police arrested 147 accused this year. PTI

### Telugu people cleared for boarding at Kathmandu airport

**154** The Andhra Pradesh government said 154 Telugu passengers, including 10 shifted from Pokhara, have been issued boarding passes at Kathmandu airport. Special flights and vehicles are being arranged to bring all evacuees back to Andhra Pradesh. PTI

### Prisoners recaptured in Nepal after mass jailbreaks

**192** The Nepali Army has recaptured prisoners after mass jailbreaks during protests that toppled the government. Around 13,500 detainees had escaped from prisons across the country, leaving security forces struggling to restore order. AFP

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# Can vultures help prevent pandemics?

How do vultures reduce the risk of disease spillover? What does their decline mean for public health? Why is protecting vultures cheaper than fighting outbreaks? Can communities be frontline actors in their protection?

EXPLAINER

Ratul Saha

**The story so far:**
When most of us think of pandemic preparedness, images of vaccines, laboratories, and health workers in protective gear spring to mind. Rarely do we picture a bird, wings outstretched, circling high in the sky. Yet, one of South Asia's guardians of public health is the vulture, nature's most efficient waste manager.

**Where are India's vultures?**
For centuries, vultures have played a vital role in keeping landscapes clean and preventing the spread of pathogens like anthrax, *Clostridium botulinum*, and rabies. Photos of carcass dumping sites with hundreds of vultures jostling for a meal were common in the 1980s. In India, the population once numbered over 40 million, but since the 1990s, it has declined by more than 95% due to diclofenac use. This loss is more than an ecological concern; it represents a slow-burning public health challenge, tying biodiversity decline to the risk of future pandemics.

India's vulture populations are part of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF), a migratory route connecting breeding grounds in Central Asia to wintering areas across South Asia. This corridor spans more than 30 countries and is traversed by millions of migratory birds each year. When vultures and other raptors move along this flyway, they link ecosystems (and disease risks) across borders. Carcass dumps, stopover sites, or poorly managed landfills can quickly turn into spillover hotspots, highlighting why the issue is regional in scope. The CAF is therefore a biodiversity and a public health corridor. Aligning conservation with pandemic prevention along this flyway offers a unique opportunity to address risks at scale while strengthening global health security.

Conservation programmes for vultures remain underfunded in the global arena. FILE PHOTO

However, the ambition to act regionally is undermined by structural and financial gaps. Conservation programmes for vultures remain underfunded and fragmented in the global arena, with limited integration into national One Health strategies. Infrastructure risks, particularly electrocution from power lines and poisoning from toxic veterinary drugs, persist unchecked.

**How are vultures related to pandemics?**
As India's National Action Plan for Vulture Conservation (2016-25) nears completion, the next phase offers an opportunity to position vulture conservation as integral to pandemic preparedness. Vultures protect public health by removing carcasses that could otherwise fuel zoonotic spillover.

As the first animals to encounter carcasses, they can play a pivotal role in surveillance and safe carcass management. Yet their contribution has rarely been formalised. Communities living alongside vultures are also critical but underutilised partners.

Financial mechanisms have not recognised vulture conservation as pandemic prevention, despite the relatively small investments required compared to the immense costs of outbreak response.

**How can India protect its vultures?**
A post-2025 national strategy could rest on five pillars. First, nationwide satellite telemetry to map habitats, carcass dumps, and spillover hotspots. Second, a Decision Support System (DSS) that integrates wildlife, livestock, and human health data for real-time risk analysis, aligned with International Health Regulations. Third, stronger cross-sector coordination under a One Health framework linking environment, veterinary, and public health agencies. Fourth, transboundary collaboration through the CAF, aligned with commitments under the Convention on Migratory Species and stronger regional disease preparedness; and finally, community stewardship that empowers women, youth, and local groups as frontline actors in surveillance and awareness.

These five pillars could conserve a keystone species, reinforce public health infrastructure, reduce future pandemic risks, and align directly with the World Health Organization South-East Asia Regional Office Strategic Roadmap for Health Security (2023-27).

Overall, by building on the foundations of the current Vulture Action Plan and embedding health security dimensions, India can transition from species recovery to a broader resilience framework. This would not only conserve a keystone species but also reduce spillover risks and position India as a global leader in biodiversity-linked health security.

**What are India's opportunities?**
By integrating surveillance across human, animal, and environmental health, reducing the time from detection to response, and fostering regional collaboration, the new approach can create systemic resilience. It could also be cost-effective: the resources required to protect vultures, through telemetry, safe veterinary practices, and infrastructure mitigation, are modest compared to the financial and human toll of an outbreak.

With its large share of CAF-connected vulture populations – including Himalayan griffon, cinereous vultures, and Eurasian griffon – and its demonstrated capacity for innovation, India can showcase how biodiversity conservation doubles as pandemic prevention. By scaling telemetry, operationalising a DSS, and embedding vulture protection into national and regional One Health strategies, India can also present a model that other countries in the region, and beyond, may follow.

The presence of vultures overhead is not only an ecological marker: it's also a reminder that protecting biodiversity can protect public health.

*Ratul Saha is Director - Raptor Conservation Programme, WWF-India*

### THE GIST

- Vultures act as public health guardians by swiftly removing carcasses and reducing the risk of zoonotic spillover from pathogens such as anthrax and rabies.
- Their populations have crashed by more than 95% since the 1990s, turning biodiversity decline into a slow-burning public health challenge.
- Conserving vultures through One Health strategies, Central Asian Flyway collaboration, and community stewardship is a cost-effective way to strengthen pandemic preparedness and health security.

# Why are European nations now moving to recognise Palestine?

Can the European Union coordinate a unified response to Palestine?

Franciszek Snarski

**The story so far:**
In a significant diplomatic shift, several European nations, including Spain, Ireland, and Norway, have formally recognised the state of Palestine. The move has created a ripple effect, prompting major powers like France to clarify their own positions. French President Emmanuel Macron stated he is "totally ready to recognise a Palestinian state," but stressed such a move "must come at a useful moment." This wave of recognition is the culmination of overlapping geopolitical, moral, and domestic pressures that have reached a tipping point.

**What makes recognition urgent now?**
The primary catalyst has been the war in Gaza following the October 7 attacks. The scale of the subsequent Israeli military response, resulting in widespread destruction and a humanitarian catastrophe, has shocked European sensibilities and made the previous *status quo* untenable. This has been compounded by the official stance of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government, which has rejected the two-state solution, the foundational principle of decades of international diplomacy. The legal proceedings at the International Court of Justice, where South Africa has accused Israel of violating the Genocide Convention, have further intensified the pressure on European nations to take a definitive stance. For many governments, recognition is no longer a final reward for a settlement but a necessary act to preserve the very possibility of a two-state solution.

**How has Ukraine reshaped Europe's stance on sovereignty?**
The Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 forced Europe to adopt a principled stand on national sovereignty and the inadmissibility of acquiring land by force. However, this robust defence of international law has thrown Europe's decades-long inaction on the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories into sharp relief. Intellectuals, media commentators, and civil society across the continent have increasingly pointed out this glaring hypocrisy, weakening the moral authority of European foreign policy. Governments now face immense pressure to demonstrate consistency. This "consistency gap" has become a significant liability, prompting a re-evaluation of their position. Recognising Palestine is thus partly an attempt to realign their policies and project a more coherent and principled stance on the world stage.

**What are the domestic political pressures inside European countries?**
The foreign policy shift is also a direct response to roiling domestic politics. Across Europe, public opinion has shifted palpably. The European Parliament's own Eurobarometer survey (2023) showed that 72% of Europeans support upholding international law in all conflicts – a principle increasingly seen as applying to Palestine as well. The harrowing images from Gaza have fuelled massive public demonstrations, student-led university encampments from Paris to Dublin, and relentless advocacy from human rights organisations. Youth and progressive constituencies, which form a crucial voter base for many ruling centre-left and green parties, are demanding concrete action beyond mere condemnation. For these governments, the political cost of inaction is rising steeply. Being perceived as passive is becoming a significant electoral risk, making recognition a signal to the domestic audience that their government is aligned with the evolving moral consensus of its electorate.

**Why are some countries moving faster than others?**
The varied pace of recognition reveals the deep historical and political fault lines within Europe. Countries like Spain, Ireland, and Norway share a history of sympathy for the Palestinian cause, rooted in their own experiences with national struggle or a tradition of social democratic internationalism. Norway was host to the 1993 Oslo Accords; its recognition of Palestine in 2024 was seen as admitting that the negotiated path has collapsed, and new leverage is needed. In stark contrast, nations like Germany and Austria remain reluctant, constrained by the profound historical responsibility of the Holocaust, which has forged an ironclad commitment to Israel's security. Meanwhile, many eastern European countries, such as Poland and Hungary, recognised Palestine decades ago under Soviet influence. However, today these same countries tend to align their foreign policy closely with the U.S. and are hesitant to take a leading role on the issue, prioritising transatlantic unity.

**How are these moves coordinated at the European Union level?**
This patchwork approach is a direct consequence of the European Union's institutional structure. The European Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy requires unanimity among all 27 member states to form a collective position – a consensus that is currently impossible to achieve. As a result, the decision on recognition has been left to individual member states. However, these are not entirely isolated actions. The moves by Spain, Ireland, and Norway were deliberately coordinated to create a greater political impact. This "like-minded group" approach builds momentum; when one set of countries acts, it provides political cover and encouragement for others to follow. While a unified EU position remains distant, this state-by-state process is creating a *de facto* shift in Europe's collective posture. The war in Gaza, the intellectual contradiction exposed by the Ukraine conflict, and rising domestic political activism have forced a change.

This is a symbolic shift in how a growing part of Europe wants to project its values and power globally. While recognition itself does not end the occupation or the conflict, it signals unequivocally that many in Europe are no longer comfortable being passive spectators to the dismantling of the two-state solution.

*Franciszek Snarski is a graduate of Sciences Po, Paris*

# UAS-B makes AI, ML programmes mandatory on Bengaluru campus

**Jayanth R.**
BENGALURU

With an aim to help students keep up with changing technology and new innovations, the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore (UAS-B) has made Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) programmes mandatory for all agricultural undergraduate and postgraduate (B.Sc and M.Sc Agriculture) students from the academic year 2025-26.

UAS-B has started new AI and ML departments, which includes data mining, in the university campus. In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with Samsung company to teach AI and ML programmes to M.Sc (Agri) students. Samsung will implement these programmes through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund.

Along with this, steps have been taken to integrate AI and ML programmes with 'Compulsory Non Gradial' courses B.Sc (Agri) students.

Vice-Chancellor V.S. Suresh told *The Hindu*, "AI is an integral part of all disciplines, including engineering and medical. Unfortunately, we are lagging behind in adopting these programmes in agriculture. We don't have expertise in the field of AI and ML, or our course curriculum may not be suitable to teach AI and ML to students. Therefore, we decided to start the AI and ML department from this year. If we delay further, time will be wasted and students will be deprived of technological knowledge."

"We had a discussion with Samsung. We requested them to conduct AI and ML programmes for our students through CSR fund . We started training from August 30. "Around 300 post graduate students have registered. It is an 80-hour programme for AI and that will be extended to 300 hours for ML course," he explained.

Prof. Suresh further said, "For final-year undergraduate students, with the CSR fund from Samsung, they have a programme called 'Hands-on Training'. We have six different modules for final-year under-graduate students. They can select one module for study. We have included one new module as AI from this academic year, which is compulsory," he said.

"For agricultural science, the syllabus is the same for all the State agriculture universities. We don't have the liberty of teaching new courses. At the same time, we have the provision to start 'Compulsory Non Gradial' courses. Therefore, we integrated AI and ML programmes in the compulsory non gradial courses from the academic year 2025-26 for B.Sc (Agri) 1st year students. The word 'compulsory' indicates that students have to pass these courses. These are also regular courses, but will not be included in the mark sheet. Instead, the student has to get a satisfactory certificate. We are planning to implement this course for 1st year B.Sc (Agri) students from the second semester this year," he added.

**Sourcing experts**

"We don't have expert faculties to teach AI and ML in our university. But, we have MoU with three reputed engineering colleges who have already started teaching AI and ML to their students. However, the difference between engineering and agriculture means, engineering students will develop the technology, but we are going to teach our students the application part of the technology – how best I can use it for agricultural production purpose, disease management, water management, post-harvest management, seed borne diseases identification. For example, drones will be developed by engineers, but making use of drone in agricultural operation is our part," he explained.

# Youth stabs friend to death over a row

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Tilaknagar Police have registered a case of murder against a youth and his female friend after the former allegedly stabbed his 21-year-old friend to death over a row in Jayanagar on Wednesday.

The deceased has been identified as Jeevan, delivery staff for an online portal, while the accused Kiran worked as sales staff at a showroom.

According to the police, the deceased Jeevan was in a relationship with Divya and they had broken up.

Divya later started dating Kiran, who was a friend of Jeevan. Divya used to upload pictures of her and Kiran which enraged Jeevan. He asked Divya to return his gifts following which her and the accused Kiran came to Jayanagar to return them.

Heated argument ensued between them which led to scuffle between Kiran and Jeevan, in the melee Kiran stabbed Jeevan with a knife he was carrying, killing him on the spot.

Passers by rushed to his help and alerted the police who shifted him to a hospital. Kiran also sustained injuries and was admitted for treatment.

Based on the complaint filed by the family of Jeevan, the police have registered a case of murder and are awaiting Kiran's recovery to arrest him .

The police detained Divya and recorded her statement to ascertain facts of the case.

In another incident a body of an unidentified man aged around 40 years was found murdered in Kumbalagodu Police Station limits on Thursday.

Mahimappa, a neighbour noticed the body with multiple injuries on the face and strangulated using a rope at a vacant site at Kempegowda Layout.

Based on his complaint, the police have registered a case of murder, and investigations are on to ascertain the deceased persons identity.

# Free workshop on dementia care at IISc tomorrow

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Dementia India Alliance, in collaboration with the Centre for Brain Research, IISc, Nightingales Medical Trust, and VayahVikas, will organise a free workshop titled "The Memory Dialogue: Science, Care and Community" on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Centre for Brain Research, IISc campus.

The workshop aims to raise awareness and share knowledge on dementia care, bringing together science, caregiving practices, and community engagement. Over 150 participants, including senior citizens, family carers, healthcare professionals, students and organisations involved in elder care, are expected to attend.


**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 18/2025/SBC Date : 09.09.2025**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

| SN | Tender No. | Description in brief (E-open Tender) | Qty. | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | L8256428 | Supply of Item : Rail Jumper with clamps at both ends complete as per RDSO Drg. No. RE/33/P-500 | 1300 | No's |

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 10.30 hrs on 09.10.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

**Senior Divisional Material Maneger, Bengaluru**

**PUB/462/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26**

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**ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL**
**ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE**
**AGRAM - POST, BANGALORE-560007**
**Phone: 080 25550677 Website: www.apsasc.edu.in**

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed Quotations Are Invited for Boom Barrier 6 Mtr Arm At Army Public School Asc Centre & College (Aps Asc C&C). Tender Enquiry/Form Can Be Collected From School Office After Payment Of Rs.250/- (Demand Draft In Favour Of Aps Asc C&C) From 12 Sep 2025 To 19 Sep 2025 (1000Hrs To 1300Hrs). Last Date And Time To Submit Filled Tender Form is20 Sep 2025 At 1130 Hrs

**Presiding Officer/Member 1**
**For School Management**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

TAKE NOTICE that our client proposes to purchase an extent of 2 acre 28 Guntas more particularly described in the schedule herein below and hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Schedule Property" from its owners **Mrs. Makamma W/o late Basavegowda** and her legal heirs and are residing at Mahadevagowda S/o Makamma W/o Basavegowda, Kalanahundi (Kalanahundi Post) Harave Kobli, Chamarajanagara District, Karanataka 571313.

If any person/s, entity, firm, institution (corporate or otherwise) has or claims any right, title, interest, claim, pending litigation or demand of any nature in or upon the Vendor and/or upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all details of the right, title, interest, claim, pending litigation, or demand made together with supporting documents **within Seven (07) days** from the date of this notice, failing which such claim shall be considered to have been waived and/or given up and our client shall be entitled to complete the sale in respect of the Schedule Property. Objections and/or claims received after the expiry of the period stipulated above shall neither be entertained nor be binding on our client.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing survey Number 85/2 measuring 2 Acre 28 Guntas inclusive of 3 Guntas karab situated at Kalanahundi Village, Harave Hobli, Chamarajanagar Taluk. Chamarajanagar District 571313 and the same is bounded on: **EAST BY:** survey Number 83/1, belonging to Meenakshi; **WEST BY:** ROAD; **NORTH BY:** Survey Number 85/1, belonging to Mallama; **SOUTH BY:** Village boundary Nanjedevanapura.

**AVADHUTHA'S SOLICITORS - Chethan Kumar. K**, Advocate
Office at New No.47, Old No. 99, 3rd floor, 4th Cross, 2nd Main Road, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore-560019. M: +91 9591233633

Place: Chamarajanagar Date: 12/09/2025

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No. 21/2025 Dt. 04.09.2025**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

| Sl. No. | Tender No. | Description in Brief | Quantity | Tender Due on |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 60255242 | Manufacture and supply of Elastic Rail Clip MK-V | 600000 Nos | 22.09.2025 |
| 2 | 33251257 | Improved High Tensile Tight Lock Center Buffer Coupler | 1628 Set | 24.09.2025 |
| 3 | 46251030 | Disconnecting and Earthing device, 8 Pole, 2 way | 150 Set | 25.09.2025 |
| 4 | 56254033 | HDPE OFC Duct Pipe of size 40/33 mm dia | 1500 Kms | 29.09.2025 |
| 5 | 29255002 | Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of IP Based Video Surveillance System | 581 Set | 29.09.2025 |
| 6 | 60258780 | Various Thick Web Switch to Drg No. T-8780 | 228 Set | 30.09.2025 |
| 7 | 17251463 | Duct Assembly Air Traction Motor | 174 Nos | 06.10.2025 |
| 8 | 29255004 | IGBT Based 3-Phase Drive Propulsion Equipments | 1 Sets | 09.10.2025 |
| 9 | 29255005 | 2 x 500 KVA IGBT based Hotel Load Converter | 1 Set | 13.10.2025 |
| 10 | 38251577 | Constant contact Polyurethene side bearer pad assembly | 615 Set | 13.10.2025 |
| 11 | 30251701 | Water tank assembly (455 Ltrs) two piece design | 115 Nos. | 13.10.2025 |

**For Tender No. 45255009 of Notice No.18/2025, the Due Date for opening of tender changed from 01.09.2025 to 30.09.2025.**

All Tender Closing Time : **Upto 10.30 hrs**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

**Principal Chief Materials Manager, Hubballi**

**PUB/445/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

TAKE NOTICE THAT My client **Sri. Sudhakar Reddy S/o Venkataravanappa** is intending to purchase the below stated schedule property from **Sri.K. Gopala Swamy S/o Puttaiah** and the same was being acquired from Bengaluru Development Authority, Vide Registration No. 10804/02-03, Dated.24.01.2003 by the Deputy Secretary-2, BDA, Bangalore. Now the schedule property comes under BBMP limits vide New EPID No.1106972339 and Property No.255 Issued by BBMP, Bengaluru,

If any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the schedule property is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within **fifteen (15) days** from the date of publication of this Public notice of his/her / their share or claim, if any with all supporting documents, failing which, the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim and the claims, if any such person shall be treated as waived and not binding on my client.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing **No.255,** New EPID No.1106972339, situated at **Banashankari 3rd Stage, Avalahalli Lay out, Bangalore-560 085.** (in Sy No.19 to 25 and partially in Sy No.28) measuring East to West; 13 Meters and North to South: 9.25 Meters totally **120.55 Sq. Meters,** bounded on :

**East by: Site No.236, West by: Road, North by: Site No.256, South by: Site No.254 including constructed house.**

**T. SRINIVASA** ADVOCATE
KAR/1415/93.
# 30, 4th Floor, 2nd Cross,
Grand Majestic, Gandhinagar,
BENGALURU-09. Mob.9448182587
**E-mail: sreeassociates5787@gmail.com**
Bengaluru Date: 12/09/2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that my client is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned below from the present owner namely **Sri.JAI SINGH JAIN,** Aged about 82 years, Son of late Sri.Prem Raj Jain, Residing at No.2193, Shobha Tulip Apartment, 24th Main, J.P.Nagar 6th Phase, Bangalore-560 078. Any person/s claiming any manner of right, title or interest in or over the schedule property is/are called upon to lodge such claim/s or objection/s with the undersigned in writing with supporting documents within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of this publication. If no such claim/s or objection/s is/are not received within the said period, then my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property and the claim/s received after the said period will not be considered.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing vacant **site No.204,** formed out of land bearing survey No.2, V.P Katha No.318, Old Pattanagere CMC Katha No.370, Rajarajeshwari Nagar Old CMC Katha No.365, Present BBMP SL.No.376, BBMP Katha No.376/365/204/370, EPID No.3966030650, situated at **Bikasipura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore,** in the Layout known as **PAUL CHINNAPPA LAYOUT,** presently within the limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Yelachenahalli Ward No.185, measuring East to West 12.19 meters or 40 feet and North to South 12.19 meters or 40 feet, totally measuring **1599.488 square feet** and the same is bounded on the;

**East by : 9th Main Road, West by : Site No.204/5 North by : Site No.34 South by : Site No.204/1**

**D.HARDEEP,** Advocate
Advocate & Property Consultant,
No.10, 2ndCross, 3rd Main,
Vinayaka Nagar, Banashankari 1st Stage
Bangalore-560 050, Ph : 7795562207.

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**E-PROCUREMENT (IREPS)**
**TENDER NOTICE No.HE-15-2025-26**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

| Sl. No. | Item of Work | Approx.Value |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Repairs/ replacement of un-servicable automatic CLS panels and LT UG cable at various stations over Hubballi division | Rs. 49,02,902.00 |
| 2. | Improvement to HT & LT distributions system under CLR Depot over Hubballi division | Rs. 40,23,890.53 |
| 3. | Electrical arrangements to Multipurpose community hall at Willey ground, Hubballi. | Rs. 15,29,698.54 |
| 4. | Electrical arrangements to proposed 02 additional loop lines with approach road as Bannihatti station. | Rs. 24,04,329.00 |
| 5. | Electrical arrangements to Skill development and training facility at Willey ground, Hubballi | Rs. 20,86,893.68 |
| 6. | Improvement of APFC panels at various substations over Hubballi division. | Rs.1,13,83,548.00 |

Last date for Submission of bids :
**Upto 11.00 hrs on 06.10.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

**Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General, Hubballi**

**PUB/451/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26**

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender notice No.**
**CAO/CN/BNC/139/2025 dated 04.09.2025**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

| Sl. No. | Item of Work | Approx.Value |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Construction of Office, Service Buildings (S+3 & G+5) and miscellaneous development works in BNC area including Electrical works (Composite work). **Sub Work-I**:- Construction of RRB office building (S+3) at Bangalore Cantonment (BNC) station. **Sub Work-II**:- Construction of Geo tech lab, SSE/W/BNC (OL) office, SSE/HQ/CN/BNC office, Supervisor rest house and Canteen as G+5 structure at Bangalore Cantonment (BNC) station. **Sub Work-III**:- Miscellaneous works of external development like Bitumen Road, ground, compounds, porta cabins and workstations at Bangalore Cantonment (BNC) station. | Rs. 16,07,82,205/- |
| 2. | Providing facilitation to Competent Authority for Land Acquistion (CALA) under the Railway Act,1989 work to the Railway Projects of Doubling and traffic facility works between Chikajajur and Bellary stations in Mysuru Division and Hubballi Division of South Western Railway. | Rs. 3,25,65,429/- |

Last date for Submission of bids :
**Upto 15.00 hrs on 26.09.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

**Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works, Bengaluru Cantonment**

**PUB/454/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26**

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**Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,**
ESTD. : 1963
**Administrative Office :** No.16, 1st 'A' Main Road, Sudhamanagar, Bengaluru-560 027. Ph: 48521054; Email: ao@tcbl.co.in

**DEMAND NOTICE**

**Notice Under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.**

Whereas at the request of you, (below mentioned Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagor(s)) **Textile Co-Operative Bank Limited., Main Branch**, has granted credit facilities from time to time by way of financial assistance against various assets creating security interest in favor of the Bank. The Particulars of the Property Mortgaged by you by way of Deposit of Title Deeds creating security interest in favor of the Bank is mentioned here under. As you failed to discharge the debt due to Bank, the below mentioned loan account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets as per the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India. As the Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act was sent to you through Registered Post calling upon you to discharge the debts due to Bank but the notice could not be served on you or the guarantors for various reasons however the notice were returned unserved, therefore we are issuing this Notice through paper publication.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor | Loan Account No. & Loan Amount | Date of NPA & Demand Notice Date | Rate of Interest (%) | Amount due as on 31-07-2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | **Borrower** **Dhanasekar M** S/o Mayakrishnan Muthugoundar **Guarantor** **1. Thulasi A** **2. Mayakrishnan Muthugoundar** **3. Vennila Mayakrishnan** | **HL-EMI/589 Rs. 35,00,000-00** | **14-07-2025 & 11.08.2025** | **10.5%** | **Rs. 35,65,193-00** (Rupees Thirty Five Lakh Sixty Five Thousand One Hundred and Ninty Three only) |

**Details of the Security to be enforced :** All the Piece and Parcel of the Eastern Portion of the Property bearing Present No.1195/1, PID No.16-54-1195/1, Old no.1195, old Katha No.1041, (Carved out of Sy.No.46 of Saneguruvanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), Presently situated at 4th cross, 2nd Main Road, Kasturi Layout, Kamalanagara, Bangalore-560079. Measuring East to West 15 feet and North to South 40 feet Bounded on:- **East by:** House No.1194; **West by:** Remaining Western Portion of same Property; **North by:** Private Property; **South by:** Road

Therefore, the Notice is given to the Borrower (s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) as mentioned in above calling upon them to make payment of the amount due as shown above within 60 days of publication of this Notice, the said amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment is not paid. Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd., shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon property as described above all or any of the rights detailed under Sub-section (4) of the Section of 13 of SARFAESI Act. Please Note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to Textile Co-Operative Bank Ltd., to initiate against the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other provisions of law. You are further requested to note that as per Section 13 (13) of the said Act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise without prior consent of the Bank. Please take note of the provisions of subsection (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

**Date: 12.09.2025** **Sd/-**
**Place: Bengaluru** **Authorized Officer**

**AXIS BANK**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION**
Public Notice for – E-Auction of pledged assets being Gold Ornaments

**The Borrowers, in specific and the public in general are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledge in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted by the Axis Bank at the below mentioned Branch.**

The below mentioned Borrowers has availed the credit facility from the **Axis Bank Limited** against the pledge of gold ornaments("Gold Loan Facility") in favour of the Bank towards the security. The Demand notices were issued to the Borrowers/Guarantors calling up the Borrowers/Guarantors to pay their outstanding amount towards the Gold loan facility availed. As the Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the outstanding loan amount, the bank is constrained to invoke the pledge and proposed to conduct an e-auction sale of pledged gold ornaments more particularly described in schedule of property hereunder on **22.09.2025 at 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM on "As In Where Is", "As Is What Is", "Whatever There Is" and "No Recourse Basis".**

**Details of Borrowers and outstanding amount**

| Branch Name | Loan A/c No. | Customer Name | Amount Outstanding | Date of Demand Notice | Gross Weight | Net Weight |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bangarapet | xxxxxxxxxx823448 | H S Anjan | 554348 | 31-Jul-25 | 95.500 | 93.600 |
| Bangarapet | xxxxxxxxxx594276 | Jagadish Reddy A | 529110 | 16-Jun-25 | 99.500 | 90.500 |
| Bangarapet | xxxxxxxxxx830077 | Namrutha R | 318930 | 31-Jul-25 | 55.800 | 55.600 |
| Bangarapet | xxxxxxxxxx878891 | Karthika M | 41962.66 | 05-Jun-25 | 10.000 | 9.700 |
| Basavangudi | xxxxxxxxxx874404 | Shivanand Beedaki | 322272 | 26-Jun-25 | 75.000 | 74.900 |
| Basavangudi | xxxxxxxxxx461115 | Sukruthi S | 124424.84 | 31-Jul-25 | 28.100 | 27.700 |
| Basaveshwarnagar | xxxxxxxxxx268566 | Madhan G | 2251613.38 | 05-Jun-25 | 415.100 | 400.500 |
| Basaveshwarnagar | xxxxxxxxxx525627 | Raghavendra Krishna | 1387860 | 27-Jul-25 | 224.600 | 220.000 |
| Chamarajpet | xxxxxxxxxx841440 | Manjunatha | 523338 | 16-May-25 | 108.000 | 106.400 |
| Channapatna | xxxxxxxxxx803457 | Ahmed Khan | 579493 | 31-Jul-25 | 121.900 | 118.800 |
| Channapatna | xxxxxxxxxx277667 | Syed Muzammil | 366096.77 | 16-Jun-25 | 69.300 | 67.600 |
| Channapatna | xxxxxxxxxx684845 | Ilyaz Shareef | 126774 | 08-Apr-25 | 25.600 | 24.800 |
| Channapatna | xxxxxxxxxx888194 | Shahtaj Bano | 93249.91 | 28-Nov-24 | 22.400 | 21.400 |
| Chikballapur | xxxxxxxxxx822309 | Somashekara M | 118975 | 27-Sep-24 | 19.700 | 19.000 |
| Chikballapur | xxxxxxxxxx268653 | Naveen N | 66410 | 10-Oct-23 | 8.700 | 8.400 |
| Devanahalli | xxxxxxxxxx765410 | Muniraj H V | 445321 | 31-Jul-25 | 73.700 | 72.700 |
| Devanahalli | xxxxxxxxxx683651 | Muniraj H V | 266439 | 31-Jul-25 | 45.800 | 45.500 |
| Devanahalli | xxxxxxxxxx928581 | Maya Ramesan Nambiar | 139000 | 24-Mar-25 | 36.100 | 36.100 |
| Doddaballapura | xxxxxxxxxx192935 | Mailarappa | 1352575 | 27-Sep-24 | 290.000 | 290.000 |
| Doddaballapura | xxxxxxxxxx182255 | Mallikarjuna N | 92517 | 31-Jul-25 | 20.900 | 20.000 |
| Doddaballapura | xxxxxxxxxx287330 | Chand Pasha . | 109331 | 26-Jul-24 | 23.100 | 23.100 |
| Electronic City | xxxxxxxxxx538713 | Thilak V | 136380.99 | 05-Jun-25 | 34.700 | 26.000 |
| Electronic City | xxxxxxxxxx424217 | Rishu Priya | 78196 | 16-Jun-25 | 19.500 | 17.400 |
| Garvebhavipalya | xxxxxxxxxx321748 | Kovai Konda Jabeer Hussain | 58757 | 16-Jun-25 | 10.700 | 10.200 |
| Garvebhavipalya | xxxxxxxxxx104653 | Kovai Konda Jabeer Hussain | 28040 | 16-Jun-25 | 4.600 | 4.500 |
| Hesaraghatta | xxxxxxxxxx538726 | Yamanurappa | 134266.94 | 31-Jul-25 | 24.000 | 23.900 |
| Hoskote | xxxxxxxxxx107461 | Usha Rani N | 492411.63 | 16-Jun-25 | 90.800 | 85.900 |
| Hoskote | xxxxxxxxxx693322 | V B Narendra | 99935 | 28-Nov-24 | 24.400 | 22.000 |
| Hoskote | xxxxxxxxxx233544 | Anand K C | 39038 | 31-Jul-25 | 8.400 | 7.700 |
| J P Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx277477 | Farhan K H | 1819784 | 27-Jul-25 | 291.500 | 288.800 |
| J P Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx710472 | Kaustav Banerjee | 606507.14 | 31-Jul-25 | 133.000 | 130.900 |
| J P Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx494144 | K Chandrakala | 200623 | 27-Sep-24 | 46.700 | 41.000 |
| J P Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx140621 | Wajith . | 184481 | 30-Jan-25 | 39.000 | 38.000 |
| J P Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx474021 | Mohan C | 112794 | 24-Mar-25 | 24.200 | 23.300 |
| Jayanagar | xxxxxxxxxx476315 | Rohith Pothula | 228770.52 | 24-Mar-25 | 45.700 | 44.200 |
| Jayanagar | xxxxxxxxxx295584 | Mohammad Tahir | 41460 | 16-Jun-25 | 8.100 | 7.200 |
| Jayanagar | xxxxxxxxxx250510 | Mohammad Tahir | 32762 | 16-Jun-25 | 5.900 | 5.500 |
| Kadugodi | xxxxxxxxxx393659 | Ashwatha | 396311.85 | 31-Jul-25 | 67.500 | 66.000 |
| Kadugodi | xxxxxxxxxx594726 | Kodanda Rama G | 332333 | 16-Jun-25 | 61.800 | 59.000 |
| Kadugodi | xxxxxxxxxx434051 | Akhilesh Kumar Mallik | 96873 | 16-Jun-25 | 17.600 | 16.800 |
| Kasthuri Nagar, | xxxxxxxxxx256023 | Gunjan Sharma | 80500 | 24-07-2025 | 14.800 | 13.700 |
| Kasthuri Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx987115 | Darshan R | 935310 | 06-Aug-25 | 172.500 | 149.000 |
| Kasthuri Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx346906 | U S Pradeepa | 98513 | 16-Jun-25 | 21.200 | 20.800 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx137200 | Thofiq Pasha S | 1219376 | 31-Jul-25 | 253.400 | 246.100 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx137747 | Thofiq Pasha S | 1058901 | 31-Jul-25 | 224.100 | 218.200 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx854125 | Syed Ayesha | 375126 | 31-Jul-25 | 73.000 | 71.700 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx905540 | Nouheera Taj | 331557 | 31-Jul-25 | 61.900 | 60.200 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx345266 | Manohar V | 200000 | 09-Aug-25 | 40.200 | 40.200 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx578164 | Nagesh G G | 132436.49 | 16-Jun-25 | 29.000 | 27.000 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx154701 | V Munirathna | 102143.65 | 16-May-25 | 21.900 | 21.700 |
| Kolar | xxxxxxxxxx693257 | Anil Kumar K N | 106603 | 16-Jun-25 | 24.900 | 24.300 |
| Mahadevpura | xxxxxxxxxx073217 | Akshay K M | 228745 | 22-11-2024 | 46.500 | 45.600 |
| Mahadevpura | xxxxxxxxxx073217 | Akshay K M | 231529 | 16-Jun-25 | 46.500 | 45.600 |
| Mahadevpura | xxxxxxxxxx842401 | Radha Khadayat | 138872 | 31-Jul-25 | 32.700 | 31.100 |
| Mahalakshmi Layout | xxxxxxxxxx712279 | S A Quadar Shakir | 696714 | 29-May-25 | 131.400 | 131.200 |
| Mahalakshmi Layout | xxxxxxxxxx693690 | Harish R | 220235.85 | 31-Jul-25 | 44.500 | 41.800 |
| Mahalakshmi Layout | xxxxxxxxxx175273 | Shridevi Nagaraj Rudhagi | 103097 | 31-Jul-25 | 20.200 | 20.200 |
| Malur | xxxxxxxxxx880357 | Kiran N | 63315.69 | 31-Jul-25 | 10.900 | 9.900 |
| Marathahalli | xxxxxxxxxx594025 | Godina Sirisha | 870690 | 05-Jun-25 | 372.600 | 342.300 |
| Marathahalli | xxxxxxxxxx648077 | Nallipogu Ravi | 145817 | 05-Jun-25 | 28.900 | 28.400 |
| Marathahalli | xxxxxxxxxx940488 | Keerthana S | 115317 | 31-Jul-25 | 25.600 | 19.200 |
| Peenya | xxxxxxxxxx440988 | Raghavendra C | 242991 | 16-Jun-25 | 40.200 | 40.200 |
| Peenya | xxxxxxxxxx900277 | Ganesh Chavan | 229000 | 09-Aug-25 | 45.400 | 45.400 |
| R T Nagar | xxxxxxxxxx190820 | R.Sandhya | 103154 | 16-Jun-25 | 21.600 | 21.400 |
| R T Naga | xxxxxxxxxx607108 | Ayub Khan Kundur | 48168.34 | 05-Jun-25 | 11.800 | 11.600 |
| Rajajinagar | xxxxxxxxxx518710 | Shridevi Nagaraj Rudhagi | 156865 | 31-Jul-25 | 30.300 | 30.000 |
| Ramanagara | xxxxxxxxxx730809 | Abdul Waheed | 128069 | 31-Jul-25 | 22.900 | 22.600 |
| RBI Layout | xxxxxxxxxx633427 | Arun S Patil | 382380 | 16-May-25 | 84.200 | 81.400 |
| RBI Layout , | xxxxxxxxxx220762 | Shaziya Sulthan | 326334 | 04-Nov-24 | 64.200 | 62.000 |
| Robertsonpet | xxxxxxxxxx724451 | Muragaiyan M | 955781 | 31-Jul-25 | 168.100 | 149.800 |
| Robertsonpet | xxxxxxxxxx008021 | Vijayakumar S | 744774.06 | 16-Jun-25 | 147.500 | 142.600 |
| Robertsonpet | xxxxxxxxxx997160 | Archana P | 194039 | 20-Nov-23 | 36.900 | 36.800 |
| Robertsonpet | xxxxxxxxxx295720 | Chethan T | 46718 | 16-Jun-25 | 12.400 | 11.100 |
| Shanthinagar | xxxxxxxxxx029077 | Bharath O M | 40758.72 | 08-May-24 | 9.800 | 9.700 |
| Tumkur | xxxxxxxxxx697799 | Dikshith E | 1503520 | 25-Mar-25 | 298.700 | 283.000 |
| Tumkur | xxxxxxxxxx984828 | Harisha T R | 648202.52 | 31-Jul-25 | 109.600 | 102.000 |
| Tumkur | xxxxxxxxxx599268 | Harish Kumar C | 380057 | 16-Jun-25 | 72.200 | 66.600 |
| Vijayanagar | xxxxxxxxxx487282 | Chetan R | 512075 | 31-Jul-25 | 148.700 | 148.600 |
| Vijayanagar | xxxxxxxxxx185843 | P Veena | 448159.25 | 31-Jul-25 | 100.500 | 94.300 |
| Vijayanagar | xxxxxxxxxx312978 | Jawed Iqbal | 199578 | 30-Jan-25 | 48.300 | 48.300 |
| Whitefield Main Road | xxxxxxxxxx786491 | Nagaveni N | 83419.62 | 11-03-2025 | 21.700 | 17.200 |
| Yelahanka | xxxxxxxxxx471128 | Deepak S | 494858 | 16-Jun-25 | 83.000 | 82.800 |
| Yelahanka | xxxxxxxxxx239449 | Sanjay Sahu | 80108.09 | 24-Mar-25 | 19.200 | 18.200 |

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**Place: Bangalore** **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Axis Bank LTD.**

EXPLAINER

# Is Voter Adhikar Yatra making a difference on the ground?

The yatra highlights flaws in Bihar's SIR of electoral rolls, energising INDIA bloc while raising anxiety among voters; BLOs remain stretched, BLAs disengaged, leaving many uncertain about inclusion on the electoral lists

Sarthak Bagchi

**The story so far:**

The Voter Adhikar Yatra, led by Rahul Gandhi, travelled 1,300 kilometres across 25 districts of Bihar to highlight 'vote *chori*' and alleged flaws in the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The campaign brought the INDIA bloc partners together, relied heavily on social media for outreach, and linked voter roll deletions to fears of exclusion from welfare schemes. While enthusiasm was visible on the ground, communication gaps by Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) left many voters anxious and uncertain about their status on the rolls.

**What was the Voter Adhikar Yatra in Bihar?**

The Congress organised the Voter Adhikar Yatra to expose alleged electoral malpractices by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and point out the Election Commission's alleged complicity in them. Mr. Gandhi travelled in an open jeep with grand alliance leaders, including Tejashwi Yadav (RJD), Dipankar Bhattacharya (CPI-ML), Mukesh Sahni (VIP), and State Congress president Rajesh Ram. With all leaders travelling together, the strength and bonhomie between alliance partners were on full display.

At different stops, other members of the INDIA bloc, such as Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, and Congress leaders such as Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and Deepender Hooda, joined the yatra, signaling coordination between the alliance partners. While the yatra received limited coverage in mainstream media, much like the Bharat Jodo Yatra, the Congress party emphasised a communication drive through social media, producing up to 20 reels, photographs, ad campaigns, and daily messages.

The continuous and sustained presence of Mr. Gandhi and Congress party's top leadership in Bihar for close to two weeks has enthused the cadres and workers of the party, but a sizeable chunk of the supporters and spectators for the yatra and the several rallies along its route were populated by alliance partners like RJD, VIP, and CPI(ML). Slogans like *Vote Chor Gaddi Chhodd* energised the yatra, and conversations with villagers showed that Mr. Gandhi's presence and the fear of deletions from voter lists were beginning to resonate. However, the messaging remained largely top-down rather than organically emerging from the ground.

**Who are the BLOs, and what did they do in the SIR?**

BLOs are mostly school teachers and, in some cases, Anganwadi workers, who work at the Panchayat level and form the last tier of the Election Commission's hierarchy. Inducted into the Election Commission's apparatus in 2007, BLOs act as the custodians of the electoral roll at each polling booth. Their responsibilities include cleaning the electoral rolls in each of the over 90,000 polling booths in Bihar. Their task was to visit each household and update voter lists – adding new names, deleting deceased voters, and removing duplicates or fake entries.

**Matter of discussion:** Rahul Gandhi during the Voter Adhikar Yatra, in Bihar. PTI

Given the intra-state migratory nature of work among school teachers, several BLOs do not work in their home district or native Panchayats. Very rarely is a school teacher posted in their native Panchayat. This means that most BLOs are not fully familiar with all residents in their areas. For example, a resident of Supaul (Seemanchal or East Bihar) may be posted as a teacher in Ara (Bhojpur or West Bihar) and become the BLO in Ara, but might not know all local voters. This lack of familiarity has made it challenging for BLOs to collect accurate information.

In addition, the BLOs were incredibly pressed for time, with a deadline to meet 1,200-1,500 voters within 30 days, leaving many unable to visit every household for verification.

Adding to the frenzy was confusion about which documents would be accepted: while some BLOs accepted Aadhaar or ration cards, others insisted on residence proof or birth certificates for voter registration.

**Who are the BLAs? And why are they not actively pursuing wrongful deletions in Bihar?**

BLAs are appointed by political parties and are usually an integral part of the Polling Booth Level Committee for each booth. BLAs are a vital cog in the wheel of the party organisation, and their strength often represents the strength of that party's presence. According to the Election Commission, Bihar has a total of 1,60,813 BLAs. The BJP has the highest number of BLAs at 53,338; RJD follows with 47,506. JD(U), the ruling party for the last 20 years, has close to 36,000 BLAs, while Congress has only 17,549 across 90,000 polling booths in Bihar.

Across several villages in Darbhanga, Sitamarhi, Seohar, Bettiah, Gopalganj, Siwan, and Ara, we asked villagers whether any BLAs had approached them to explain about the SIR process or the procedure to get them re-enlisted on the electoral rolls, in case their names were deleted from the first list (among the 65 lakh names omitted in the first draft). Most villagers claimed that no BLAs had approached them since the SIR process concluded on July 26th. Among the RJD and Congress, most party workers and activists, including BLAs, appeared to be busy with the management of the Voter Adhikar Yatra. Ganga Mandal, an RJD leader in Darbhanga City, admitted that his team was preoccupied with yatra preparations and had not been able to approach voters regarding the electoral roll revision.

The yatra passed through Darbhanga via Muzaffarpur on August 27th. Jitender Kishor, an RJD leader from Gaayghat, Muzaffarpur, remarked that even when RJD BLAs have submitted objections, BLOs were not accepting them. The process of submission of objection, with a strict format to be followed by the voter, including filing an affidavit and Form 6, is also tedious and complicated, some political activists claimed, making it difficult for parties to train their BLAs. Among the grand alliance, only CPI(ML), with 1,496 BLAs, appears to have had some success, submitting over 100 objections, the highest by any political party in Bihar. The Election Commission has also placed a limit of 10 objections per day and a maximum of 30 claims to be filed by a single BLA from each booth. In totality, the process of filing objections to names missing from the draft electoral roll appears to be complex and restrictive on the ground.

**What, according to the voters, is the impact of Voter Adhikar Yatra in Bihar?**

The ground-level discourse on 'vote *chori*' is yet to take a robust shape; however, there is noticeable anxiety over missing names. In Sahni Tola of Betua Panchayat, Muzaffarpur, near where the yatra camped on August 27th, voters from the Nishad community expressed their concern about many names being omitted from the revised voter list. Baleshwar Sahni, a voter from Betua Panchayat, said that most people of his locality were unaware whether their names had been retained. He added that the BLOs were unresponsive, and the lack of clear communication from both BLOs and BLAs added more fire to speculative murmurs about the impending threats of deletion from the voter list.

Naresh Sahni, from the same village, also expressed frustration, noting that no political party seemed to be making active attempts on the ground to explain the complete picture about missing names from the voter list. The combination of incoherent or absent communication and the lack of party workers at the ground level, coupled with strong social media messaging about 'vote *chori*' promoted by the Voter Adhikar Yatra, is turning speculation and concern into real fear of omission among voters. The messaging from Mr. Yadav, suggesting that removal from the voter list could lead to exclusion from welfare services, also appears to resonate with the public. A tea shop owner in Betua Panchayat admitted that an exclusion from the voter list is dangerous, as it could lead to removal from the ration list and other welfare benefits.

Seen as a more real and immediate danger, the threat of exclusion from redistributive schemes like ration and pension seems to matter more to voters than distant ideas about 'vote *chori*' in the Mahadevapura constituency of Karnataka or in Haryana.

*Sarthak Bagchi teaches in Ahmedabad University and has been studying elections in Bihar since 2015. He trailed the Voter Adhikar Yatra in Bihar during its last leg from August 27-30*

FROM THE ARCHIVES

## *Know your English*

Upendran

"How do you pronounce condolence?"

"The 'o' in the first syllable is pronounced like the 'a' in China.

The 'o' in the second syllable 'do' sounds like the 'o' in words like so, go and no.

And the 'e' in the final syllable is pronounced like the 'a' in China. I suppose?"

"That's right. The stress is on the second syllable. So the word is pronounced conDOlence."

"I see. Did you attend the conDOlence meeting yesterday?"

"Yes, I did. The manager gave a moving speech."

"I believe he cited lines from the Geetha and the..."

"...he didn't cite lines from the Geetha, he quoted lines from it."

"Is there a difference between cite and quote?"

"Yes, there is. When you quote someone, you repeat or reproduce exactly what he or she has said or written. For example, Nehru often quoted Robert Frost."

"My English teacher often quotes from Shakespeare. Do you think people will ever quote you?"

"Not unless they happen to be crazy."

"In yesterday's article, Tendulkar has been quoted several times. Can I say that?"

"You certainly can."

"Now tell me what cite means."

"When you cite someone you merely refer to that person."

"In other words, I do not reproduce what he or she has said?"

"Exactly! For example, Nehru's book was cited several times in yesterday's article."

"In a scholarly article, several authors are usually cited."

"That's a very good example."

"Thank you! So when you cite someone, you merely refer to that person or you refer to something that he has said. When you quote him, you reproduce exactly what he has said. Is that right?"

"You catch on pretty quickly."

"Catch on? Does it mean to understand?"

"Right again! When you catch on to something, it means you understand it and learn it. For example, our new office peon is illiterate, but he catches on very quickly."

"I wish I could say the same thing about my Principal. He still hasn't caught on to the games played by the clerks."

"Some people catch on slowly."

"That's true. Does catch on have any other meaning?"

"Another meaning of catch on is to become popular. For example, jeans and t-shirts have caught on in India. Bell bottoms first caught on in the early seventies."

"How about men helping their wives in the kitchen? This idea hasn't caught on in India."

"Can I quote you on that?"

"You certainly can!"

*Published in The Hindu on February 3, 1998*

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

## Test your knowledge of one of history's most heroic last stands, fought by a handful of Sikh soldiers against overwhelming odds that took place on September 12, 1897

Prathmesh Kher

**QUESTION 1**
How many Sikh soldiers defended Saragarhi, and how many Afghan tribesmen attacked them?

**QUESTION 2**
Who led the defence at Saragarhi?

**QUESTION 3**
What was the strategic purpose of the Saragarhi post between Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan?

**QUESTION 4**
What gallantry award was posthumously given to all 21 Sikh defenders?

**QUESTION 5**
What is the connection of this battle with the Indian Army today?

**Visual Question:**
Identify this breech-loading single-shot rifle that featured heavily in the battle of Saragarhi? FLICKR.

**Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:** 1. What was the first product manufactured in Carl Zeiss's Jena workshop? **Ans: Simple microscopes**
2. Which mathematician–physicist did Zeiss bring in during the 1860s to apply theoretical science to microscope design? **Ans: Ernst Abbe**
3. What unusual policy did Zeiss impose regarding microscopes that failed to meet quality standards? **Ans: They were physically destroyed by being smashed on the workshop anvil**
4. Carl Zeiss provided two major welfare measures for his workers long before they became common in industry. Name them. **Ans: Paid sick leave and free medical treatment**
5. What was Carl Zeiss's declared philosophy regarding the relationship between craftsmanship and science in instrument making? **Ans: That scientific theory must guide practical instrument construction, not trial-and-error craftsmanship alone**
Visual: What is the connection between this movie still and Carl Zeiss? **Ans: A still frame from the Stanley Kubrick helmed 'Barry Lyndon', which used the Planar 50mm f/0.7 lens from Carl Zeiss to shoot scenes lit only by candlelight**
**Early Birds:** Tamal Biswas | Sunil Madhavan | Arun Kumar Singh | Sudhir Thapa | Pranab Biswas

## Word of the day

**Temerity:**
extremely confident behaviour

**Synonyms:** audacity, boldness, daring

**Usage:** *He had the temerity to question the Minister.*

**Pronunciation:** newsth.live/temeritypro

**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /təmerɪti/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

# Cardiac care: 5 satellite centres proposed

The plan is to set up 100-bed satellite centres in each of the five municipal zones, says the new director of Jayadeva Institute Dr. B. Dinesh

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research is considering starting Jayadeva Satellite Centres within the jurisdiction of the five municipal corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), in a bid to provide emergency treatment for cardiac patients. A proposal in this regard will be submitted to the State government, said the institute's new director B. Dinesh.

Dr. B. Dinesh

Addressing his maiden press conference as the director of the institute on Thursday, Dr. Dinesh noted that with a population of nearly 1.75 crore in Bengaluru, the main Jayadeva Institute is finding it difficult to handle the patient load.

**High patient inflow**

"Post-COVID, the number of people visiting the hospital with cardiac-related concerns has increased significantly," Dr. Dinesh said.

"Patients travelling from distant corners of the city risk their lives during transit. Hence, there is a need to establish satellite centres within the GBA's five municipal areas. This can be on the lines of similar Jayadeva centres functioning at ESI Model Hospital in Rajajinagar (with 75 beds) and K.C. General Hospital in Malleswaram (with 50 beds)," he added

**Golden hour**

These centres will help provide treatment to cardiac patients within the "golden hour" and reduce the burden on the main institute, thereby easing patient management, Dr. Dinesh said.

"The proposal is to set up 100-bed satellite centres in each of the five municipal zones, with facilities for both outpatient and inpatient treatment. Currently, some hospitals within BBMP limits are not fully functional. If they are handed over to Jayadeva, they can be converted into dedicated cardiac centres. Discussions will be held in this regard with the Medical Education Minister," he added.

**Multi-storey building**

Although the institute has built two dormitories to accommodate attendants of patients, it has not been possible to make room for all of them due to high inpatient numbers.

"We are planning a multi-storey building near the Infosys block for housing attendants. With outpatient visits touching 2,000 daily, the hospital faces a 15% staff shortage, which will be addressed in consultation with authorities," Dr. Dinesh said.

**Cardiac screening**

Plans are under way to start cardiac screening kiosks at metro and bus stations for quicker detection of heart ailments. In a bid to keep treatment affordable, the institute will adopt robotic surgery technology, with specialist doctors receiving the required training.

"A proposal for robotic technology adoption has already been submitted to the government," Dr. Dinesh stated.

# Dentists, dental surgeons are not qualified to perform hair transplants or aesthetic procedures, says KMC

**Afshan Yasmeen**
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Medical Council (KMC) has issued an advisory, cautioning the public that dentists, dental surgeons, and oral and maxillofacial surgeons are not authorised to perform hair transplantation or aesthetic procedures. The advisory was issued on September 9.

The move comes after the National Medical Commission (NMC) clarified to the Telangana Medical Council that such interventions require specialised surgical training which does not form part of the dental curriculum. In a letter dated June 13 this year, the NMC noted that the Dental Council of India had earlier issued a public notice in December 2022 without consulting the Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB) of the NMC. The commission reiterated that the eligibility of registered medical practitioners (RMPs) to perform hair transplants and aesthetic surgeries is clearly defined in its guidelines issued in September 2022.

**Guidelines**

According to the guidelines, hair transplantation should "preferably be undertaken only by those who have surgical grooming like MCh/DNB Plastic Surgery or MD/DNB Dermatology with adequate training in dermatological surgical procedures."

Both these specialties include hair transplantation as a core subject in their training curriculum. Similarly, aesthetic procedures are permitted only for RMPs who have undergone adequate training in such interventions as part of their formal education. Emphasising these provisions, the KMC notified to the general public stating that "Dentists (BDS), dental surgeons and oral and maxillofacial surgeons (MDS) do not have these specialties as a core topic in their curriculum and as such they lack formal surgical knowledge and training to perform these procedures."

The council has warned clinical establishments that allowing unqualified personnel to perform hair transplants or cosmetic procedures will attract strict legal consequences.

**Patients at risk**

Manjunath Hulmani, president of the Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists (IADVL) Karnataka branch, said the notification is aimed at curbing the growing trend of unqualified practitioners offering cosmetic and hair transplantation procedures. "Such procedures performed by unqualified practitioners can put patients/clients at serious risk. We have been repeatedly highlighting that such procedures, though often perceived as minor, require high levels of surgical precision and carry potential complications if not performed by trained specialists," he told *The Hindu*.

Members of the IADVL had recently submitted a memorandum to the KMC seeking that a public notice be issued in this regard. "With this public notice, the KMC has aligned itself with NMC guidelines and underscored that only practitioners with formal qualifications in plastic surgery or dermatology are competent to undertake hair transplantation and aesthetic surgery in Karnataka," he added.

# Terry Fox Run for cancer research on Sept. 20

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Canadian International School (CIS), Bengaluru, will be hosting the Terry Fox Run (TFR) 2025 in association with the Terry Fox Foundation at its campus in Yelahanka on September 20.

The 5-km run is scheduled to start at the CIS campus, from where the participants will travel around the neighbourhood and the lake in Manchenahalli before returning at the campus.

The TFR is an annual non-competitive charity event held in numerous regions around the world in commemoration of Canadian cancer activist Terry Fox and his 'Marathon of Hope' to raise money for cancer research.

The school aims to raise around ₹25 lakh this year, in support of cancer research at Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai.

The run is open to all students, teachers, and parents across Bengaluru.Registration for participating in the event is free.

Participants and others can contribute to the cause by making an online donation to the Terry Fox Foundation, or by purchasing a TFR T-shirt.

## *Shashvata Parihara* to be staged

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A play titled *"Shashvata Parihara"*, produced and directed by Beluru Raghunandan, will be staged by Stage Bengaluru troupe on Friday at Kalagrama, Mallathahalli, at 7 p.m.

**Timings**
**BENGALURU**

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRIDAY, SEP. 12** | |
| RISE 06:09 | SET 18:23 |
| RISE 22:02 | SET 10:19 |
| **SATURDAY, SEP. 13** | |
| RISE 06:09 | SET 18:22 |
| RISE 22:59 | SET 11:23 |
| **SUNDAY, SEP. 14** | |
| RISE 06:09 | SET 18:21 |
| RISE 24:00 | SET 12:27 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 31 | 23 |
| Mysuru | 30 | 20 |
| Bengaluru | 30 | 22 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**28°C** The weather will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**27°C** Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower to occur.

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| Sr. No. | Post Name (Post Code) | No. of Vacancies | Pay-Scale (IDA) in ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Chief Project Manager (Signaling) - E7 | 01 | 1,20,000-2,80,000/- |
| 2. | DGM (Land Monetization) – E3 | 01 | 70,000-2,00,000/- |
| 3. | Deputy General Manager (Safety & Training) – E3 | 01 | 70,000-2,00,000/- |
| 4. | Deputy General Manager (E&M) – E3 | 01 | 70,000-2,00,000/- |
| 5. | Section Engineer (E&M) - S3 | 08 | 40,000-1,25,000/- |
| 6. | Section Engineer (Signaling) - S3 | 06 | 40,000-1,25,000/- |
| 7. | Section Engineer (Tele & AFC) - S3 | 06 | 40,000-1,25,000/- |
| 8. | Section Engineer (Power Supply) - S3 | 04 | 40,000-1,25,000/- |
| 9. | Section Engineer (OHE / TRD) - S3 | 04 | 40,000-1,25,000/- |
| 10. | Section Engineer (IT) - S3 | 01 | 40,000-1,25,000/- |

**Important :** (1) Eligibility qualification/experience, maximum age limit, details of how to apply etc. for the above advertised posts are available on MAHA-Metro **website-www.mahametro.org, under career heading.**
(2) The candidate has to apply offline as mentioned in the advertisement.
General Manager (HR), MAHA-METRO

Nagpur Metro : A Safe Journey

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# Educated young people were forced to migrate, say Nepali nationals in city

'We are sending money from Bengaluru, but those in Nepal are not receiving it as servers have stopped working'

**Rishita Khanna**
BENGALURU

Bank executives say that remittances have not been reaching beneficiaries in Nepal because servers at the Nepal Rastra Bank are down. AFP

"Nepal attracts tourists from across the world and money flows into the country, but none of it has ever been used for the welfare of the people. There has been no change in the lives of normal people. Nepalis are forced to leave their families behind to do menial work abroad, but leaders at home live in luxury," 21-year-old Janaki from Dolpa, Nepal, who works as a hairdresser in Bengaluru, said.

As their country plunged into turmoil, Nepali migrants in Bengaluru told the *The Hindu* that the protests were long awaited. For years, they said, politicians in Nepal prospered on taxpayers' money, while the educated youth were left without jobs, forcing many to migrate to India and other countries in search of work.

Migrants from Nepal in the city showed a common pattern – majority of the youth hold degrees, but opt for modest jobs.

"Most of us leave home alone at the age of 15 to 18 without clear plans for work. We arrive, look for jobs and then send our earnings home. Many of us hold degrees but take low paying, informal jobs – waiters, security guards, hotel maintenance staff, cooks, or care workers," said Binod, a Nepali national working as a maintenance worker in Bengaluru, who holds a B.Sc degree. He collects maintenance fees for an apartment complex in Chickpet.

"Many others, especially women, have migrated to Germany or Australia to work in baby day-care centres and old-age homes," Mr. Binod added.

"The government was extremely corrupt. Unemployment has left all of us with only one option – to migrate. Even a 12-year-old in Nepal knows that the main problem is the lack of jobs. That is why so many of us are here," Ms. Janaki said.

**Ripples felt**

While families in cities such as Birgunj and Biratnagar remain safe and continue their daily routines with communication lines working normally, financial disruptions are being felt across Nepal.

Bank executives here said that remittances have not been reaching beneficiaries for nearly five days now because servers at the Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) were down.

"People are sending money from Bengaluru but those in Nepal are not receiving it because the servers are not working," Rajesh Kumar Rawal, a representative of a Nepal-based private bank in Bengaluru, said.

## Bengalureans to return

**Rishita Khanna**
BENGALURU

Tourists and pilgrims from Karnataka stranded in Nepal are set to return home. According to State government officials, 27 people – 12 women and 15 men – will return from Kathmandu on Saturday aboard a Nepal-based airline.

The total number of stranded tourists from the State, however, still remains unknown.

# DPR finalised for Bengaluru's Russel Market redevelopment

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The redevelopment of the Russell Market in Shivajinagar has moved a step closer, with the Detailed Project Report (DPR) now finalised.

Bengaluru Central City Corporation Commissioner P. Rajendra Cholan on Thursday directed officials to fast-track the project and modernise the market without losing its heritage character.

The redevelopment will focus on improving accessibility, visibility, and movement inside the market while adding modern amenities. Plans include dedicated parking, underground drainage, water and electricity supply, and solid waste segregation. Solar energy, rainwater harvesting, and energy-efficient designs are also part of the plan.

Rizwan Arshad, MLA for Shivajinagar, directed that the redevelopment should be done without compromising its heritage.

Mr. Cholan, during the visit, requested the shopkeepers and business establishments to ensure cleanliness around their premises, as the garbage dumped on footpaths is damaging the city's appearance. Shop owners have been asked to keep at least 100m of the footpath in front of their shops clean.

North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar directed officials to intensify efforts to meet the property tax collection target for the current financial year. At a review meeting, Mr. Kumar said the corporation has set a target of ₹1,242 crore, of which ₹518 crore has been collected, and officers are instructed to recover the remaining ₹724 crore.

**Drive against plastic**

During the drive, North Corporation officials seized 113 kg of banned single-use plastic from three commercial establishments and collected ₹76,000 as fine.

Similarly, officials in the West City Corporation seized 1,500 kg of banned single-use plastic and collected fines worth ₹62,000.

# HAL gets 3rd engine for LCA Mk1A

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Thursday said that it has received the third GE 404 engine from General Electric (GE) Aerospace for Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk1A.

The Bengaluru-headquartered defence PSU said that while the third GE 404 engine has been received, the fourth will be delivered by the U.S. firm by the end of the month.

"HAL has received the third GE 404 engine for LCA Mk1A. One more engine is scheduled to be delivered by the end of September. Engine supply chain improvement will pave the way for LCA Mk1A deliveries," HAL said in a statement. In January 2021, the Cabinet Committee on Security had approved the procurement of 73 LCA Tejas Mk1A fighter aircraft and 10 LCA Tejas Mk1 trainer aircraft at the cost of ₹ 45,696 crore, along with design and development of infrastructure sanctions worth ₹1,202 crore.

As per the plan, the deliveries of all 83 aircraft would have to be completed in eight years.

"HAL will be delivering the first three aircraft in the third year and 16 aircraft per year for the five subsequent years," the Ministry of Defence had said in February 2021.

However, there have been delays in the deliveries of LCA Mk1As by HAL.

Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, during the Aero India 2025 in February, had criticised the PSU over the delays and said he was "just not confident" of HAL. HAL, however, had said that the delays in handing over of the aircraft to Indian Air Force (IAF) were due to supply chain issues of GE.

"When the IAF Chief made the mention (about delays) in February, we did not have a single engine from GE, though the airframe was ready. The first engine came in April and we are now getting the second one. This is the primary reason why the deliveries have been held up," HAL Chairman and Managing Director D.K. Sunil told *The Hindu* in July.

Mr. Sunil said that if GE delivers 12 engines as assured, HAL will be able to have 12 aircraft ready by the end of this financial year.

# Garvebhavipalya Lake case settled in SC; GBA to take over development

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

**The lake, spanning 17 acres and 30 guntas, falls under the Bengaluru South City Corporation**

The Supreme Court has settled the long-pending Garvebhavipalya Lake case, paving the way for its inclusion under the jurisdiction of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), said Preeti Gehlot, Special Commissioner, Forest, Environment, Climate Change, Elections, and Disaster Management, GBA, in a release.

Garvebhavipalya Lake, located in Survey No. 49 of Hongasandra village, spans approximately 17 acres and 30 guntas. Falling under the Bengaluru South City Corporation, the lake was the subject of a prolonged legal battle. Bengaluru North Taluk officials recently recovered 15 guntas of encroached land at Kempambudhi Lake, located in Survey No. 0002 of Kempambudhi village.

During a boundary survey conducted recently, the encroachment was identified, and authorities have since fenced off the land with barbed wire and restored it to the lake's protected area, GBA said in a statement.

# Dasara inauguration row: Activists back Banu Mushtaq

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Members of Naveddu Nilladiddare and others addressing the media in Bengaluru on Thursday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Naveddu Nilladiddare (NND), a network of women's organisations on gender justice, has urged the State government to stand firm in its decision to invite author and International Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate the Mysuru Dasara festival.

"We welcome the decision of the Government of Karnataka to invite the eminent Kannada writer and this year's Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate the world-famous Mysuru Dasara festival. We also strongly condemn the attacks being carried out against her by communalists and religious fundamentalists who have raked up an ugly and unnecessary controversy," said a statement from NND. "Banu Mushtaq has brought international recognition to the Kannada language. It was shocking to see PILs being filed to stop her from inaugurating Dasara," said Vasundhara Bhupathy.

Four PILs – one by Pratap Simha, former BJP MP, and three by private citizens – have so far been filed at the Karnataka High Court to revoke the government's decision. Controversy erupted after BJP leaders and right-wing activists opposed the decision, primarily citing the author's religion and terming her 'anti-Hindu.'

Transgender rights activitist Akkai Padmashali remarked that Dasara has evolved to become a State festival which belongs to all. "It can no more be claimed by one single religion or family. Those who oppose Banu Mushtaq are trying to destroy the secular fabric of the State and sow unrest," she said.

They also criticised the BJP for being "anti-minority" and "misogynistic". Pointing out that no objections were raised when Kannada poet Nisar Ahmed was invited to inaugurate the festival in 2017, writer R. Sunandamma questioned if Ms. Mushtaq's choice was being opposed for her gender.

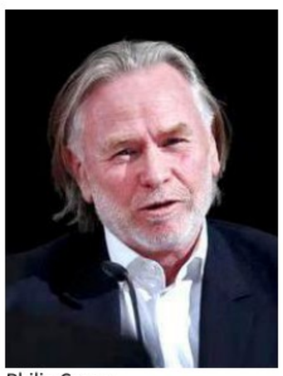
# 'Australia against U.S. tariffs, but Quad remains relevant'

Philip Green, Australia's High Commissioner to India and Bhutan, who was in Bengaluru recently, speaks in an exclusive interview with *The Hindu*

INTERVIEW

***Philip Green***

**K.C. Deepika**
BENGALURU


Philip Green

Amid the ongoing geopolitical reshuffle, with the tariffs on many countries by the USA weighing heavily, Philip Green, Australia's High Commissioner to India and Bhutan, said that though there is a long-standing relationship with the United States, a key security partner, Australia stands against the tariffs. In an exclusive interview with *The Hindu* in Bengaluru, Mr. Green said that despite the souring relations between India and the U.S., the Quad remains relevant for many reasons.

Excerpts from the interview...

**What kind of impact is the U.S. tariffs having on Australia and India?**

We have a long-standing, very deep relationship with the United States, our key security partner, a country that looms very large in our perspective on everything. But on this, we differ from our friends in Washington.

We stand against tariffs. We stand for an open, rules-based trading environment. That's an important principle as part of our broader support for global rules and norms, and we will stand by that for the longest time.

The Australian economy is resilient, and while we don't welcome these tariffs, we're confident that Australia can weather them. Only 5% of Australia's total goods exports go to the United States and we have been, from many years, for a range of reasons, developing methods to diversify our trading relationships and the places to which we export.

India is a focal country for our diversification effort. And we think there is huge potential between Australia and India. We are highly complementary economies. We produce many of the things that India will need for its next phase of economic growth. And that's obvious in the case of energy, minerals, and metals, green energy, but it's also true in fields like education and skills, where India will need to train up an even larger group of young people as they come onto the jobs market here, and Australian educational institutions are willing and able to support India in that perspective.

I was nearly four weeks in Australia, and the mood is buoyant. We feel as though our government has a good plan and the Australian industry is well placed to deal with the challenges, even though as we say, we don't welcome the tariffs which have arrived from Washington.

For India too, Australia can be part of its efforts to diversify its markets. And we already have the first phase of our free trade agreement, which is called ECTA (Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement), but we are seeking very seriously on both sides to develop the second phase, and I think for Indians as well as for Australians, this can be a way of diversifying our import basis and export basis so that our economies can be more resilient.

**We are a shifting geopolitical situation. There is Quad, and on the other hand, the US has expressed its displeasure about India becoming "friendly" with China and Russia. With this shift in dynamics, where does the Quad stand today?**

For Australia, the Quad remains very relevant. We are committed not only to the Quad, but the things that it stands for: free, open, prosperous and inclusive Indo-Pacific. That's the shared home of Australia and India. And we think that the underlying reasons that the Quad has come so far in recent years still very much prevail, and we know that those views are shared in Washington.

Already this year, there have been two Quad meetings at the Secretary of state level and Minister of External Affairs level from India and our Minister of Foreign Affairs and those meetings issued powerful communiques about our continuing shared support for the Quad and what it stands for.

Now, and particularly between Australia and India, I think those underlying realities remain strong. And if I read the Indian mood right, the ambition for our partnership, both bilaterally in security terms and across the Quad, remains strong.

**With the USA, UK and other countries posing challenges to Indian students aspiring for higher education abroad, does Australia stand to gain?**

International education is a key sector for Australia. The (Australian) Prime Minister recently released an economic road map for Australia-India relations, which identified four key sectors, and one of those was education and skills. We see that there is a large and growing number of young Indian people who want a high-class international education in English, and we think that our offering is a good one, both in terms of the quality of our education institutions, the multicultural, warm, and welcoming nature of our society, and the fact that we are a lifestyle superpower.

There are a lot of Indian students in Australia - about 130,000 at the last count, and that is very much welcome. But there are other ways in which Australia can participate in India's skills needs, such as research partnerships, partnerships with PhD students. Australia has answered Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for the opening of foreign branch campuses in India, and the first two foreign universities that chose to take up the call are both Australian, Deakin University and the University of Wollongong in Gujarat.

Since then, three other Australian universities have said that they have committed to opening campuses, and they are looking at a range of Indian States. This provides a real choice for the Indian student and the Indian family. They can choose a high-quality, Australian degree in Australia, or they can choose to go to an Australian campus in India, get the same quality of degree, and at a fraction of the price, and without the family dislocation.

**You have mentioned how Indians are one of the fastest growing demographic groups in Australia. Are they there for work or studies?**

We issue about 50,000 visas for study in Australia every year and about 100,000 for people to undertake work in Australia of some kind - either short or long term.

Overall, there are now more than a million people of Indian origin in Australia, which is a lot for us, because we are only 26-27 million people. So, they are nearly 4% of our population. They're making a very powerful contribution to our lives and economy. Our census statistics say that a person of Indian origin in Australia is twice as likely as another person in the community to have a Master's or further degree. They're twice as likely as another person in the community to open their own business. And they're one and a half times more likely than other migrant groups to be involved in community and sporting associations. So we welcome this group of migrants to Australia as we have welcomed waves of migration from other countries in different eras.

There's one special way in which we are seeking to engage this group in our community. The government has set up the Centre for Australia-India Relations, headquartered in Parramatta, which is an area of Sydney with a large number of Indian people. It was established with two very esteemed Australians of Indian origin as CEO and chair. It is deliberately seeking to engage the diaspora in Australia to support our bilateral relationship.

**But hate crimes are on the rise against migrants of various origins in many countries, including Australia. How is the Australian government dealing with these to ensure the safety of migrants?**

The first thing I would say is Australia has been, and remains, one of the safest places on the planet for people of all types, and we have an open, multicultural society with people from many parts of the planet and Australians are proud of the way in which that has worked very well, both for Australia and for those who choose to live amongst us.

There have been recent incidents, and that is deplorable, and our Ministers at the highest level have been very firmly on record that acts of hatred and violence have no place in our society. We deplore them, and we rely on our institutions of security management to be able to deal with them with the full force of the law.

We continue to support, and the vast majority of Australians continue to support, our multicultural society, and acts of this kind have no part in the society that we have and that we're seeking to strengthen.

# High Court quashes two criminal cases in road-rage incident

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The High Court has quashed two criminal cases registered in connection with a road rage incident in Bengaluru reported in April this year involving a Wing Commander of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and an employee of a call centre, after both chose to give quietus to the issue by withdrawing the complaints lodged against each other.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum passed the order while allowing the separate petitions filed by Wg. Cdr. Shiladitya Bose and Vikas Kumar S.J., an employee of a call centre, for quashing the FIRs registered against them.

During the pendency of their petitions, both of them chose to compromise the issue while terming it a trivial incident of road rage, resulting only in verbal exchanges between the parties.

Both Mr. Bose and Mr. Kumar personally appeared before the court and said that they did not sustain any injuries during the incident.

"Continuation of proceedings in such circumstances would serve no fruitful purpose and would amount to an abuse of the process of law. This court has also kept in mind the fact that one of the accused is a serving Air Force Officer, who would otherwise be compelled to face criminal proceedings despite the matter being trivial and settled. Having regard to the statements of the complainants, the voluntary withdrawal of allegations, and the absence of any injury, this court is satisfied that both petitions deserve to be allowed," the court said in its order.

The incident had come to light after CCTV footage of the fight between the duo went viral on social media. Mr. Bose initially lodged a complaint against Mr. Kumar, who subsequently lodged a counter complaint against the former alleging attempt to murder.

# Vocal concert on Sunday

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Music lovers in the city are in for a treat as Gayana Samaja will host a vocal concert by Carnatic vocalist R.S. Nandakumar on Sunday. The performance will take place on the Samaja's premises on Krishna Rajendra (K.R.) Road, from 5.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

He will be accompanied by Veena Suresh on the violin, Ramanujan G.S. on the mridangam, and B.R. Latha on the khanjira.

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**Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagalur.**

Short-Term Tender Notice No.: 15/2025-26 Date: 09.09.2025

In the Tender Notice seen above Tender is invited from eligible contractors for total 04 works through KPP Portal under Head of Account: 8443 Deposit Contribution, 4059-80-051-0-32-383 Construction of Court Buildings and Judicial Officers Residential Complex, 5054-03-337-0-17-154 State Highway - Improvements related to Sub divisions of Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru District. Details of capabilities to undertaking or having implemented the works (as per Standard Tender Document KW-2 & 4) should be attached. Contractors can be awarded the contract only if they have the minimum eligibilities as mentioned in Act 3. Minimum Approx. Amount Rs. 29.00 lakhs and Maximum Approx. Amount Rs. 200.00 lakhs. For Tender to be submitted through KPP Portal for 04 works (Indent No. 27657 on 16.09.2025, Indent No. 21488 (3rd Call), 24018 on 26.09.2025, Indent No. 22720 on 29.09.2025) tender should be submitted within 4.30 PM. For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagalur.**

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/68/901

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Government of Karnataka Zilla Panchayath, Chitradurga

**Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Chitradurga-577501**

Email : zped.cta@gmail.com Office phone no: 08194-222372

No:EE/PRED/CTA/TEND/2025-26/1499 Date:10.09.2025

**DATE EXENDEED TENDER NOTIFICATION**

Executive Engineer, Pachayath Raj Engineering Division, chitradurga has invites works tender under Standard tender document under various for 2 works (18115 and 18117) for the Estimated Cost Minimum Rs.150.00 lakhs Maximum 150.00 lakhs Total Rs:300.00 Lakhs. Further information obtained from the office during the office hours or any quarries contact (support@eprochelpdesk.com) or KPPP Helpdesk Phone No: tel: 09240214000, or 09240214000 this office Telephone no. 08194-222372 at office of the Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division,Chitradurga as dates below:-

Date of Pre Bid meeting Date: 12.09.2025 : Time : 11.00
Last Date for information any quarries Date: 17.09.2025:Time : 11.00
Last Date for Submitting the tender Date: 18.09.2025:Time: 16.00
Last Date of Opening the Technical Bid Date: 19.09.2025:Time :16.01
Last Date of Opening the Financial Bid Date: 20.09.2025:Time :16.02

Further any quarries for tender contact (support@eprochelpdesk.com) or KPPP Helpdesk Phone No: tel: 09240214000, or 09240214000 or this Phone no.08194-222372 or Executive Engineer, P.R.E.Division, Chitradurga in office hours.

RO.No.364:DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/2025-26

**Sd/- Executive Engineer P.R.E. Division, Chitradurga**

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Or write to us at **customercare@thehindu.co.in**
Scan the QR code to register your feedback

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

**ಯುವ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರೀಡಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ**

ರಾಜ್ಯ ಯುವ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ನೃಪತುಂಗ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560001.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080–22215601, 22211246, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 22215602

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: DYES/WELFARE/ದ.ಕ್ರೀ.ಕೂ.ಆ/08/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 10.09.2025

**ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**

(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ವಿಷಯ: ಉಪ–ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಆಡಳಿತ), ಯುವ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರೀಡಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ರಾಜ್ಯ ಯುವ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ನೃಪತುಂಗ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560001 ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಇವರು, ಮೈಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗುವ ದಸರಾ ಕ್ರೀಡಾಕೂಟ ಸಿಎಂ ಕಪ್–2025 ರ ಉದ್ಘಾಟನಾ, ಸಮಾರೋಪ ಸಮಾರಂಭ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ಕ್ರೀಡಾ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆಗಳು ನಡೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು 07 ದಿನಗಳ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ವಿವರಗಳು : ಮೈಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗುವ ದಸರಾ ಕ್ರೀಡಾಕೂಟ ಸಿಎಂ ಕಪ್–2025 ರ ಉದ್ಘಾಟನಾ, ಸಮಾರೋಪ ಸಮಾರಂಭ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ಕ್ರೀಡಾ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆಗಳು ನಡೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು. ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ : ರೂ.70.98 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು/–, ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ : ರೂ.1,42,000/–.

ಆಸಕ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/) ಮೂಲಕ ತಮ್ಮ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು.

1) ಬಿಡ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18–09–2025 ಸಮಯ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆ. 2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 19–09–2025 ಸಮಯ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆ. 3) ಹಣಕಾಸು ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: ನಂತರ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ವಿಳಾಸ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು

ಸಹಿ/–
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಆಡಳಿತ)
ಯುವ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರೀಡಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ

DIPR/CP/2765/Zen/2025-26

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**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/Tr(Op)Z/SEE(O)/AEE3/25-26/6691-93 & 6694-96 Date: 10.09.2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**

(Through Karnataka public procurement portal only)

KPTCL invites bid against for the following:

1) Bid enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TKR/TZ/SEE(O)/AEE3/2025-26/0010/CALL-3 Dt:10.09.2025 CALL-3 Tender for **procurement of 66KV class CT's (Ratios: 1600-1000/1-1-1A, 1200-800/1-1-1A & 200-100/1-1-1A) without mounting structure, marshaling box and terminal connectors required for maintenance of sub-stations in Transmission (Operations) Zone, Tumakuru.**

2) Bid enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TKR/TZ/SEE(O)/AEE3/2025-26/0011/CALL-3 Dt:10.09.2025 CALL-3 Tender for **procurement of 66KV class CT's (Ratios: 800-400/1-1-1A, 400-200/1-1-1A & 1000-600/1-1-1A) without mounting structure, marshaling box and terminal connectors required for maintenance of sub-stations in Transmission (Operations) Zone, Tumakuru.**

The bids will be received through KPP Portal only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the KPPP process can be obtained by logging on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** OR KPTCL website **https:kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"E Procurement KPTCL"** on or after **Dtd: 12.09.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

**Sd/-, Chief Engineer Electy., Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, "PARASARANA BAHAVANA" 1st Floor, Kothithopu Road, 66/11kV S/s Tumakuru Premises, Tumakuru-572 103.**

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**LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA**

South Central Zonal Office Estates & Office Services Department
"Jeevan Bhagya", Saifabad, Hyderabad – 500004
Ph :040- 23242083 ,Email: scz_estates@licindia.com

**NOTICE**

The LIC of India, Zonal Office intends to **empanel** reputed **(1) Real estate Firms (2) Individual Property Dealers/ Real Estate Agents** to assist in letting out vacant areas in various Buildings owned by the Corporation, situated in the states of Karnataka , Telangana & Andhra Pradesh.
Applications are invited from reputed interested firms or individuals with atleast 3 years experience and necessary infrastructure for the above purpose.
The application form may be downloaded from our Web-Site www.licindia.in. Completed application forms along with relevant documentary evidence may be submitted in a sealed cover, superscripted either as "Application for Empanelment of Real Estate Firms' (or) as " Application for Empanelment of Real Estate Agents/ Individual Property Dealers" depending on the category under which applied for, to the **Regional Manager (E&OS), Estates & Office Services Department,"Jeevan Bhagya", LIC OF INDIA Saifabad, Hyderabad – 500004.**

| Last date for submission | 29-09-2025 3 PM |
|---|---|
| Empanelled applicants/Firms shall be intimated later in their registered email ID. | |

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any/all applications without assigning any reasons thereof.

Date: 12-09-2025 **Zonal Manager**

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Basavarajeswari Group of Institutions

**BALLARI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT**

Autonomous Institute under Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi
(Recognised by Government of Karnataka & AICTE, New Delhi)
"Jnana Gangothri" Campus #873/2 Ballari Hosapete Road, Near Allipur,
Ballari 583104, Karnataka State, India

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed/online tenders are invited from reputed OEMs/authorized distributors for supply, installation, and commissioning of lab equipment/tools for establishing an **AICTE-IDEA Lab with ID-202000340** as per AICTE norms at our institution.

The tender document with specifications and terms is available at www.bitm.edu.in or can be requested via email. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.Last date for submission: **26/09/2025, 5:00 pm** Phone: 7892800172 | web: www.bitm.edu.in principal@bitm.edu.in

**Sd/- Principal**

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**BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED**

(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

**BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION**

(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal)

BESCOM invites tender through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from eligible Bidders for Procurement of following materials.

| Sl. No. | Description | Enquiry No. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Procurement of Chain Saw | BESCOM/2025-26/ IND0170 |
| 2 | Procurement of Tree Pruner | BESCOM/2025-26/ IND0171 |

**Bid Documents availabile:** 12.09.2025 onwards. **Last date for Bid Submission:** 29.09.2025, 17:00 Hrs. **Opening of Bid Document:** 30.09.2025, 17:15 Hrs.

The Tender can be obtained through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal web-site https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Aspiring Bidders need to register on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with Karnataka Public Procurement Portal help desk contact numbers (+91-8046010000 +91-8068948777, 09240214000 & 09240214001) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com

**Sd/-**
**Chief General Manager (Ele.,), Procurement, BESCOM**

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download "BESCOM Mithra" Mobile APP

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**BANGALORE UNIVERSITY**

Recognised by UGC, Accredited by NAAC with 'A++' Grade
Jnanabharathi Campus, Bengaluru - 560056, Karnataka

No.Aca/IV/PG/Admn./2025-26 Date: 11.09.2025

**ADMISSION NOTIFICATION**

**SUB: ADMISSION TO PG COURSES TO FILL VACANT SEATS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26.**

Bangalore University invites applications to fill the vacant seats of P.G. Courses in University Departments, PG Centre, Ramanagara, Govt colleges & Affiliated college for the academic year 2025-26 through the UUCMS Online portal; **https://uucms.karnataka.gov.in/Login/Index/ through offline by downloading application from Bangalore University Website.**

- The last date for applying without penal fee is **15.09.2025** & with penal fee of **Rs.200/- is 16-09-2025.**
- The application fee of **Rs.300/- (Rs.150/- for SC/ST/** Category-I of Karnataka Domicile and transgender candidates only) is payable through **online only,** via payment link provided in the UUCMS platform / through online payment in Bangalore University website.
- For more details about PG admission like seat matrix (course wise vacancy details), Eligibility criteria, etc, please visit the University website; **https://bangaloreuniversity.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/-**
**REGISTRAR**

DIPR/CP/RO2782/AAPL/2025-26

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**MAHANAGARA PALIKE, KALABURAGI**

Ph.: 08472/ 278675, Fax : 08472 / 260776, E-mail: itstaff_ulb_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No: KMP/TS-01/ SFC Spl Grant /CE-29,30,31/2025-26 Date: 11-09-2025

**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. /2025-26 DATE: 11.09.2025**

1) Name of Work: 2024-25 SFC Special Grants 03 works. 2) Head of Account: 2024-25 SFC Special Grants, 3) Tender Amount: **1. Min Estimate Cost Rs.7,75,00,000.00, 2. Max Estimate Cost Rs.8,75,00,000.00**, 4) Eligibility of Contractor: KPWD Class-I, 5) Pre Bid Meeting Date and Time: **10.10.2025 11:00am**, 6) Last Date for Bid Submission: **13.10.2025 Upto 4:30pm**, 7) Tender opening Date: **14.10.2025 Upto 4:35pm**, 8) Tender Financial Bid opening Date: **15.10.2025 Upto 11.30am**, 9) Cost of Tender Schedule: 1. Tender Fee As Per e-portal EMD Min Rs. 9,69,900.00, 2. Tender Fee As Per e-portal EMD Max Rs. 11,02,000.00, 10) Contact Address & Mobile No: Executive Engineer, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi. 9620341599 & 9448119141, 11) Web Site: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi.**

DIPR/Kalaburagi/500/KSMC&A/2025-26

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E-mail.ID-sectcrb_2006@yahoo.co.in ; Tel/Fax – 0671-2301751/2302751

Government of Odisha

**Corrigendum to Bid Identification No.CCE.Ctc.(R&B)5/2025-26**

Tender Reference - CCE.Ctc.(R&B)5/2025-26

The Bid availability period and Date of opening of the tenders have heen modified as follows:-

| Sl. No. | Bid Identification No. | Bid Availability period as per Tender Notice | Revised Bid Availability Period | Bid Opening Date as per Tender Notice | Revised Opening Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | CCE.Ctc.(R&B) 5/2025-26 | 01.09.2025 to 05.30 Hours of 15.09.2025 | 10.09.2025 to 05.30 Hours of 19.09.2025 | 16.09.2025 at 11.00 Hours | 20.09.2025 at 11.00 Hours |

Further details can be seen from the website **htpp://tendersodisha.gov.in**.

B-516: **Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle**

OIPR-34012/11/0045/2526

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Government of Karnataka

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION**

9th & 10th Floor Vishweshwaraih Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore 560001.
**Telephone:** 080-22867172 / 22866302 **Fax:** 080-22863576 /22861665
**Email:** sedmatech@gmail.com **Website:** www.municipaladmn.gov.in

No: 1902927/DMA/TECH/MISC/78/2025 Date: 12.09.2025

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**

Tenders are invited for Installation of the Dasara Exhibition stall at Mysuru for the display of Development works under various schemes under taken by Urban Development department excluding GBA (BBMP), Karnataka is as follows.

| Sl. No. | Description | Project Cost (in Rs) |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Installation of the Dasara Exhibition stall at Mysuru for the display of Development works under various schemes under taken by Urban Development department excluding GBA (BBMP), Karnataka. **(DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT49178)** | 3,97,11,000.00 (Including GST) |

The tenders are invited on KPP portal in two cover system and interested bidders/agencies are requested to participate within the date indicated in the KPP portal. Any information can be obtained through KPP portal.

**Sd/-**
**Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Bengaluru.**

DIPR/CP/2781/Zen/2025-26

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## PERSONAL

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I, KARTIK** MEHTA, Aged about 24 years, S/o Rajiv Mehta, R/at Flat No. B31, Ebony, Tata Sherwood, Basavanagara Main Road, Bangalore-560037, have changed my name from KARTIK to KARTIK MEHTA (New Name) vide affdt. dt 09.09.2025, sworn before notary M. Rajendra, Bangalore.

**I, SENTHIL** Kumar Subra Mani s/o Mani, r/o: Flat No.101, Lotus Pride Apt, 3rd CRS, 1st MN, MLA Layout, Kalena Agrahara, Bannerghatta, Blr–560076. Have changed my name as Senthilkumar Mani. Vide affidavit on 10/09/2025.

**I, WILLIAM** Anthony George s/o George Anthony, r/o: C–301, Tower–C, Marvel Sequoia, Survey No 139, Channasandra (V), Blr–560067. Have changed my name as George William. affidavit on 10/09/2025.

**I, V.ISSAC,** S/o J. Guna Joycy, R/a No.07, 9th Main, 12th Cross Pillanna garden stage 3rd Sonappa block, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to Mohammed Ishaq and also religion from Christianity to Islam vide affidavit dt: 11.09.2025 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore.

**I, J.** Guna Joycy, D/o Jeevanandham, R/a No.07, 9th Main, 12th Cross Pillanna garden stage 3rd Sonappa block, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to Fathima Zohra and also religion from Christianity to Islam vide affidavit dt: 11.09.2025 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore.

**I, SONIA** Aggarwal resident of Aspen B 31, Tata Sheerwood Apartment, Basawanagar, Bengaluru- 560037 I have changed my name from Sonia Aggarwal to Sonia Verma vide affidavit dated 10-09-2025 sworn to before notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru

**I, LAKSHMI,** W/o. Kumaraswamy T M, residing at #113, Chikkalasandra, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru 560061, have changed my name to Reshma E vide Affidavit Dated: 06/09/2025 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, B'luru

## REAL ESTATE

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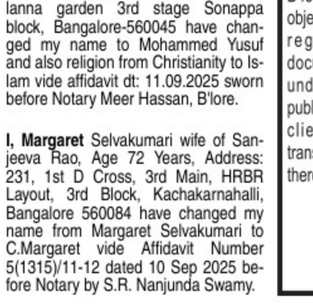

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Offer Valid from 5st Sep. – 5th Oct 2025
For more details: Posa Mallikarjuna Cell: 9052917779

## RENTAL

**To-Let (For** Lease only) North Facing 2 BHK Semi Furnished Flat is for Lease SRS White Pearl Apartment Flat No.A-305, Opposite Kithaganur Panchayath Office Kithagnur Main Road, Bangalore. Contact: 9441181124, 8328460672

## PERSONAL

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I, PRAVEEN** Kumar Aggarwal resident of Aspen B 31, Tata Sheerwood Apartment, Basawanagar, Bengaluru- 560 037 I have changed my name from Praveen Kumar Aggarwal to Praveen Aggarwal vide affidavit dated 09-09-2025 sworn to before notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru

**I, PRADEEP** Kumar Parameshwara Pillai, S/o. Parameshwaran Pillai, residing at #2, Sreedevi Nilayam, Sampige Layout, Bidarahalli, Virgonagar Post, Bengaluru 560049, have changed my name to Pradeep Kumar vide Affidavit Dated: 11/09/2025, sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bengaluru.

**I, V.** Vicky Joseph, S/o J. Guna Joycy R/a No.07, 9th Main, 12th Cross Pillanna garden 3rd stage Sonappa block, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to Mohammed Yusuf and also religion from Christianity to Islam vide affidavit dt: 11.09.2025 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore.

**I, Margaret** Selvakumari wife of Sanjeeva Rao, Age 72 Years, Address: 231, 1st D Cross, 3rd Main, HRBR Layout, 3rd Block, Kachakarnahalli, Bangalore 560084 have changed my name from Margaret Selvakumari to C.Margaret vide Affidavit Number 5(1315)/11-12 dated 10 Sep 2025 before Notary by S.R. Nanjunda Swamy.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**I, INDRANI** 54 Years, W/O M Nataraj residing at #25 2nd cross A block Agrahara Dasarahalli, Basaweswaranagara, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru 560079, do hereby declare that the names Indrani and Indrani Laxminarayan Venkata Ramanappa pertain to one and the same person, namely myself, as evidenced by affidavit dated 01-09-2025 sworn before Advocate and Notary K. V. Bachi Reddy, B'luru.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Clients are intending to purchase Flat No. G02, E-PID No. 2191558984, Block-2, in the Ground Floor, measuring 1160 sq ft of SBA, in the residential building known as "ORACLE GARDENS" situated at Kalkere Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, earlier BSTQ, now BETQ, coming under BBMP limits, from its owner Mrs. SREE PRIYA.A, D/o., Sri. Ayyappan, Flat No. G02, Block-2, Ground Floor, ORACLE GARDENS Apts, Manjunatha Nagar, Horamavu, B'lore-43. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 7 days of publication hereof, failing which, our client will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

**H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO & H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO**
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bengaluru-01, Mob: 9341380225

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**KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
# 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-48/922/2025-26 Date: 10.09.2025

**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the works mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

**Name of the Works :** Formation of Industrial Layout, including Construction of Roads, RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross Drainage Works, Retaining wall, SWD, HDPE Dual Water supply pipe line, OHT, GLSR & RWH at Sector-2 in Dobaspet Industrial Area, 7th Phase, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District (2nd Call).

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **04.10.2025** upto **4.00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

**Sd/-**
**Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru**

DIPR/CP/2764/Zen/2025-26

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**NOTICE AND ADVERTISEMENT OF DISPENSATION OF MEETINGS OF EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS, SECURED CREDITORS AND UNSECURED CREDITORS OF APPLICANT COMPANIES**

**FORM NO. CAA. 2**

**[PURSUANT TO SECTION 230 (3) OF COMPANIES ACT 2013 READ WITH RULE 6 AND 7 OF COMPANIES (COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND AMALGAMATIONS), RULES 2016]**

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENCH AT BENGALURU**

**IN THE MATTER SECTIONS 230 TO 232 AND OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS IF ANY, OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 AND RULES FRAMED THEREUNDER AS IN FORCE FROM TIME TO TIME**

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION OF TRITIONVALVES CLIMATECH PRIVATE LIMITED (APPLICANT COMPANY NO.1 / TRANSFEROR COMPANY) WITH TRITON VALVES LIMITED (APPLICANT COMPANY NO.2 / TRANSFEREE COMPANY) AND THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS AND THEIR CREDITORS**

**COMPANY APPLICATION CA (CAA) NO. /01/BB/2025**

| | |
|---|---|
| **TRITONVALVES CLIMATECH PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN U31909KA2020PTC131337)** A company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, Having its Registered Office at Sunrise Chambers, 22 Ulsoor Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560042 **Represented by one of its directors Mr. Aditya Maruti Gokarn, DIN: 00185458, Authorized Signatory** | **Applicant Company No.1/ Transferor Company** |
| **TRITON VALVES LIMITED (CIN: L25119KA1975PLC002867)** A company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, Having its Registered Office at Sunrise, Chambers, 22 Ulsoor Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560042 **Represented by one of its directors Mr. Appaiah K. B., DIN: 10053407, Authorized Signatory** | **Applicant Company No.2/ Transferee Company** |

Notice is hereby given that by an order dated **28th August, 2025** the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench ("The Tribunal") has dispensed with the meeting of Equity Shareholders, Secured Creditors and Unsecured Creditors of the Applicant Companies in the matter of Scheme of Amalgamation of M/s. Tritonvalves Climatech Private Limited (Transferor Company) with M/s. Triton Valves Limited (Transferee Company) ("Scheme").

In pursuance of the said order and as directed therein notice is hereby given that, the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to order dispensation of holding the meeting of Equity Shareholders, Secured Creditors and Unsecured Creditors of the Applicant Companies. Any party aggrieved by this order may file a miscellaneous application with the NCLT.

Copy of the order dated **28th August, 2025** and Scheme of Amalgamation can be obtained free of charge at the registered office address of the Transferee Company as above.

| For Tritonvalves Climatech Private Limited (Applicant Company No.1/ Transferor Company) | For Triton Valves Limited (Applicant Company No.2/ Transferee Company) |
|---|---|
| Mr. Aditya Maruti Gokarn<br>Authorised Signatory<br>DIN: 00185458 | Mr. Appaiah K. B.<br>Authorised Signatory<br>DIN: 10053407 |

Date : 12 September, 2025
Place: Bengaluru

**Hanging by a thread:** Karnataka accounts for nearly 20% of India's garment exports, with Bengaluru, Ballari, and Mandya being the key hubs. A readymade garment that previously faced an average tariff of around 10% now confronts a total duty of over 60%. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

# Trump's tariff heat scalds garment units

Facing rising costs, falling orders, and mounting pressure from global competitors, MSMEs in the State have to now grapple with the tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump, which are likely to cripple various sectors, particularly the garment industry, finds out **Mini Tejaswi,** even as trade bodies bat for new markets

The Donald Trump administration's recent imposition of steep tariffs, 25% in July and another 25% in August, came as a huge trade roadblock and critical threat to Karnataka's industrial and export ecosystem – from garments to engineering goods – as they have the potential to significantly cripple the productivity and profitability.

Particularly hit will be a host of products made by the State's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), as the landed costs of their exports will be hit by 20% to 35% with immediate effect, lament trade bodies and industry players. They are already facing rising costs, falling orders, and mounting pressure from global competitors.

Karnataka is home to close to 10 lakh MSMEs, employing around 60 lakh people across sectors such as textiles, engineering goods & electronics, auto components, leather and footwear, gems and jewellery, marine/sea products and processed foods, agro products, coffee, silk, spices, chemicals, home furnishing, handicrafts, hardware, toys, to name a few, and a large number of these firms heavily depend on U.S markets.

As per data shared by Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre (VTPC), the State's nodal agency for promoting international trade, Karnataka's exports to the U.S have almost doubled in the last four years, from $4,625.05 million in 2021-22 to $7,898.02 million in 2024-25 (Source: DGCIS, Kolkata).

While textiles, apparel and readymade garments, remain the hardest hit in Karnataka, the tariff's impact is far broader. Gems and jewellery exports (in Bengaluru and Mysuru) are seeing reduced demand in the U.S., while leather goods (around Bengaluru) face substitution from low-cost producers elsewhere. Engineering goods and auto components exporters are grappling with shrinking demand and higher component costs. In electronics and precision engineering, tariffs combined with elevated supply chain expenses are further squeezing margins.

Recently, Jitendra Chopra, president, Aluminium Extrusion Manufacturers Association of India (ALEMAI) expressed concern over Karnataka's aluminium extrusion industry being hit by global headwinds, including volatility in raw material prices, high energy costs and mainly the 50% tariff.

Karnataka's Minister for Small Scale Industries and Public Enterprises Sharanabasappa Darshanapur admitted that U.S. tariffs would impact export-oriented units across multiple sectors, including garments, automobile components, aerospace products, food, etc,.

## Garments the hardest hit

Karnataka accounts for nearly 20% of India's garment exports, with Bengaluru, Ballari, and Mandya being the key hubs. "Being labour-intensive and price-sensitive, even small tariff hikes render exports uncompetitive. Competing nations such as Bangladesh and Vietnam are already gaining orders at India's expense," observed Prashant Gokhale, president, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC).

He argued that while importers and retailers/customers in the U.S. may initially absorb the customs tariff burden of the garment industry, eventually they would push back costs on to Indian exporters by renegotiating or demanding discounts. In some cases, part of the tariff may get passed on to American shoppers and that would increase their retail tag prices, he said.

> With garment exports being labour-intensive and price-sensitive, even small tariff hikes render exports uncompetitive.
>
> **PRASHANT GOKHALE,** BCIC president

"But in price-sensitive categories (basic T-shirts, jeans), retailers hesitate to increase prices much, so exporters end up absorbing more of the hit," said Mr. Gokhale, adding that a readymade garment that previously faced an average tariff of around 10% now confronts a total duty of over 60%. "This suggests a more than five-fold rise in landed costs, dramatically eroding the competitiveness of Indian garments in the U.S. This steep cost increase makes our products almost impossible to sell at a competitive price in the U.S market," he stated.

Some garments and apparel manufacturers in Bengaluru have even halted production amid worsening cost competitiveness and order cancellations, and payment delays have become regular, said Mr. Gokhale. This view was echoed by many industry players, who did not wish to be named when contacted by *The Hindu*.

"Recent analysis found consumer prices of imported apparel and footwear in the U.S. could rise by 30% to 40% in the short run, indicating significant pass-through to buyers. This said, price-sensitive contracts and wholesale channels often force Indian suppliers to absorb a portion of the shock – a combination that is lethal for low-margin MSMEs," said M.G. Balakrishna, president, the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FKCCI), a trade body representing thousands of MSMEs.

Karnataka exported fashion and apparel worth over $1 billion to the U.S. in 2024 as against the country's total exports to the country at $4.8 billion.

## Multiple other sectors

Karnataka is a key hub for aerospace components, auto parts, machinery, and IT hardware. Tariffs on specific product lines increase supply chain and landed costs, hitting MSMEs hardest. East Asian competitors are emerging stronger in this segment.

Karnataka produces over 70% of India's coffee and exports roughly half of that output. The State accounts for over 50% of India's silk industry and contributes significantly to exports. Cashew kernels, spices, handicrafts are exported extensively, and also exported are Channapatna toys, a traditional craft export from Ramanagara district, known for lacquered wooden toys. The emerging merchandise segments include semiconductors, aerospace components, and engineering goods are quickly growing in export share.

Tariffs will bring not just financial, but also operational and existential burdens on MSMEs, who mostly run on thin 5% to 10% net margins. "A tariff shock of even 10% to 25% on the U.S. side obliterates that cushion unless prices are raised or costs are cut," said Mr. Gokhale. Also, when tariffs climb to 50% range, low-margin MSMEs are also facing contract attrition as buyers try to consolidate to larger vendors who can finance long cycles and compliance. As labour-intensive units see order flight, chances of factory closures and job fears are high, he explained.

Multiple trade bodies that represent small and medium exporters from the State pointed out that MSMEs are critical to employment generation and industrial growth in hubs such as Bengaluru, Mysuru, Dharwad, and Hubballi. As export orders shrink, there's a visible impact on jobs, women's workforce participation, and ancillary sectors like logistics, packaging, and freight forwarding.

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) estimated that some 55% of India's U.S.-bound shipments, including that of Karnataka, valued around $47 billion to $48 billion are now exposed to pricing disadvantages of 30% to 35%.

The U.S. tariffs has raised the landed cost of Karnataka's MSME exports by 20% to 35%, depending on the product. "This has significantly reduced their global competitiveness. Buyers in the U.S. are shifting towards alternative sourcing destinations such as Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Mexico, which either enjoy preferential access or face lower tariff barriers. MSMEs in Karnataka, already operating on tight margins, are struggling to sustain orders under these conditions," Mr. Gokhale observed.

U.S. buyers, especially large retailers, are unwilling to pass on higher costs to the end consumer. As a result, exporters are facing order cancellations, renegotiated contracts, and delayed payments. Smaller MSMEs, with little bargaining power, are particularly vulnerable and unable to safeguard their business relationships, observed Mr. Balakrishna.

Industry insiders said that reduced advance payments from buyers and slower order cycles have worsened liquidity conditions. "Rising domestic input costs – spanning raw materials, energy, and logistics – have added to the burden. To sustain operations, many exporters are resorting to short-term borrowings and overdrafts, which increases their financial risk exposure and weakens long-term sustainability," said Mr. Gokhale.

## Across board surcharge

B.R. Ganesh Rao, president, Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA), said the tariff hike acts like an across-the-board surcharge that immediately raises the landed cost of Indian products in the U.S. market. For Karnataka's MSMEs, which typically compete on price and run thin margins, steep spike in tariffs means immediate drop in competitiveness versus low-cost Asian rivals like Bangladesh, Vietnam and Indonesia. It will lead to urgent working-capital stress as orders are renegotiated or delayed, and inventory risk where consignments already in transit face unexpected duty increases. Early trade estimates show tens of billions of dollars of Indian exports to the U.S. are affected, indicating a widespread exposure across many MSME value chains, he said.

"Legally, the importer pays the tariff, but in practice the burden is shared: U.S. buyers/retailers face higher landed costs and will often seek price concessions from suppliers or switch sources; where suppliers cannot credibly cut prices, retailers will pass most of the cost to U.S. consumers via higher retail prices," Mr. Rao explained. Empirical economic work on similar tariff shocks shows consumers do bear a material portion of the increase, but trade diversion and lost volumes are the immediate pain for MSMEs, he explained.

According to Mr. Rao, it comes with a lot more pains such as loss of market share to alternative suppliers and longer time to recover volumes, higher working-capital requirement, as buyers slow payment terms or cancel orders. It means pressure to move up the value chain (which requires capex and time), additional compliance and administrative costs (re-labelling, new HS classifications, testing to seek exemptions) and risk of permanent buyer substitution (once a buyer builds supply relationships elsewhere). These also amplify employment and liquidity stress in labour-intensive MSME clusters, he opined.

Mr. Darshanapur said the State government will assess the severity of the impact and necessary remedial measures will be put in place. "However, the Union government has to intervene to ensure necessary support to domestic exports oriented units," he added.

## Time for swift action

According to the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC), this is a moment for swift and strategic action. The trade body said it was in constant communication with both the Central and State governments to advocate for relief measures pressing for inclusion of key demands such as special financial package for tariff-hit sectors and a review of existing export incentives. Trade bodies are also exploring avenues for technical assistance to help MSMEs streamline their operations and reduce costs, also collaborating with financial institutions to provide easier access to credit for businesses affected by the crisis.

KASSIA said it was advocating for a near-term (30 to 90 days) emergency relief plan which comprised duty-compensation packages, interest-subvention on export credit, and targeted export stimulus for labour-intensive MSMEs. It was also pushing for a medium term (3 to 18 months), which include upgrading supply-chain, training and aggregator models to move MSMEs from commodity-grade goods to higher-value niches where ad-valorem tariffs bite less.

"We will also support and coordinate with government requests for WTO consultations and legal remedies," opined Mr. Rao. KASSIA also called for emergency export credit and duty compensation for the most exposed MSMEs, accelerated market-diversification support and urgent diplomacy to remove unjustified tariffs.

Trade bodies said they have been actively encouraging and assisting their members to diversify their export markets. Going away or reducing the dependency on their key export market (America), by focusing more on strengthening ties with the European Union, the U.K., the Middle East, and other high-growth economies, is critical. In fact, the spike in tariff came as a wake up call for MSMEs in Karnataka and it told them to stop being over-dependent on the U.S. market, said many stakeholders.

KASSIA said it would help exporters re-route to non-U.S. markets (EU, Middle East, Africa, Latin America) and ramp up e-commerce B2C channels. It would also promote collective action such as consortium shipping, pooled finance, and shared compliance labs to reduce per-unit cost. Mr. Balakrishna also urged exporters to reduce dependency on the U.S. by diversifying their export markets, meet EU benchmarks through CE certification and sustainability labels, and focus on emerging economies like Vietnam, Indonesia and South Korea.

## Policy relief

However, all stakeholders say that unless supported by policy relief, export incentives, and market diversification strategies, Karnataka's MSMEs risk losing their hard-earned global positioning, threatening both industrial growth and the livelihoods dependent on this sector. Many trade bodies anticipate that the Centre would engage proactively and negotiate with the U.S. administration in the days to come in order to safeguard business, in addition to supporting the exporter community through policy intervention, export incentives, and improved logistics and finance access.

Karnataka is home to close to 10 lakh MSMEs, employing around 60 lakh people across sectors such as textiles, engineering goods and electronics and auto components, a large number which heavily depend on the U.S market.

Braving the odds A still from *Green Girl*; Sarthak Hegde with Mayur Gowda and Sucharita Haritas. RAVICHANDRAN N, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Painting love across lines

**Director Sarthak Hegde and actors Mayur Gowda and Sucharita Haritas** talk about their upcoming Kannada movie *Green Girl,* reflecting on the challenges of portraying forbidden love in today's social and political climate

**Vivek MV**
vivek.mv@thehindu.co.in

"My film is a glorious canvas for two people in love," says director Sarthak Hegde about his movie *Green Girl.* He urges people to look beyond the most obvious point in the film – the Hindu-Muslim angle.

"Young couples are often shamed in the name of moral policing. They are expected to study together and not fall in love. In *Green Girl,* the couple's desires might seem immature, but subconsciously, it's a political act, and we wanted to glorify it by giving it a platform," he explains.

Starring Mayur Gowda and Sucharitha Haritas as Jeevan and Ameena, respectively, *Green Girl* tells the story of an inter-faith couple in coastal Karnataka.

Following its screening at festivals, including the International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFF), *Green Girl* is set to hit the screens on September 13, with KRG Studios presenting the Kannada drama.

Even as it narrates a tender love story, *Green Girl* vouches for unity, as evident in the opening, where children from all backgrounds celebrate being Indians.

"My version of India is showcased in the opening shot of the movie. You see a small girl dressed as Mother India with the Tricolour. According to me, India is young and playful, but the larger reality is different," he offers.

The reality Sarthak mentions is the communal divide in the region. "Communal tensions have always been there, and then there is Bappanadu," points out Sarthak, referring to the Bappanadu temple (also called the Durga Parameshwari temple), built in the 13th Century by Bappa Beary, a Muslim sailor and merchant, that stands as a symbol of coastal Karnataka's syncretic past.

The film's title, Sarthak says refers to the course Ameena's life takes, because of a certain colour associated with her. We brought the aspect of colour to humanise her character. Reducing Ameena to a colour is also superficial. We wanted to create this paradox."

Mayur and Sucharita define the experience of working for *Green Girl as* transformative. "Jeevan reminded me of my past self. This movie changed my perspective about so many things," says Mayur, who was drawn towards the innocence of his character.

For Sucharita, understanding Ameena's world was important. "She (Ameena) is nowhere close to the person I am. So, I wanted to be her and live that character completely."

Even as we delve into the world of Jeevan and how his liberal thinking is challenged by hardliners from his community, we are hardly given a sense of Ameena's world. *Green Girl* offers only subtle hints about the impact her people have on her.

"From the beginning, we were clear that we would be following Jeevan's journey," clarifies Sarthak. "Extremism from both sides is wrong. If we show that, then I would be increasing hatred in society. Ameena is going through the same feelings as Jeevan about our fractured society."

Sarthak hopes the film or its scenes are not taken out of context. "I hope people understand what the film is trying to say as a whole. Our message is universal."

# Art of the matter

**Whispers Between Worlds showcases the works of three artists exhibiting as a group in Bengaluru for the first time**

**Ruth Dhanaraj**
ruth.dhanaraj@thehindu.co.in

Different strokes, different folks Pure Gestures by Mohit Naik (above); and Fabric of Life by Anjali Rajkumar offer a glimpse of what one can expect at Whispers Between Worlds. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Three contemporary artists – Anjali Rajkumar, Mohit Naik and Narayan Lakshman – will be exhibiting their work in Bengaluru. Though each artist has a different style and tone, they share a common vision, says Ritikaa Sadhwani, director at iArt, who curated the show.

"Whispers Between Worlds is an interesting visual journey with each artist displaying their unique techniques. The similarities in their outlook was the central reason we decided to show three artists together."

"This was also the first time the three of them were exhibiting in this format in Bengaluru, making it a new offering for art lovers in the city." says Ritikaa.

She adds, "Historically, art is associated with being unattainable and at times, viewers can feel intimidated by some spaces. We hope to make first-time visitors and buyers feel at ease at the gallery."

Delving into each of their works, Ritikaa says artist Mohit Naik uses a colour palette that is soothing and is known for his scenes of village life and rural women at work.

"Mohit had an early exposure to art, surrounded by the works of his father, artist Mohan Naik, and began painting from a young age. Much like his father, his work too, is a reflection of pastoral life in Goa though he has developed his own style," she says.

Anjali Rajkumar's works are whimsical with a touch of science and spirituality, interpreting mythology in her own way, says Ritikaa.

"Unlike most artists who leave their work open to interpretation,

Anjali's art comes with a narrative that guides viewers into understanding what they are looking at."

"Each of her works are distinctive, and one can see evidence of physics in her canvases."

Ritikaa says Narayan who has had no formal art education, started painting as "a pure exercise in philanthropy", drawn to it during the pandemic.

"Narayan started painting as a hobby, and was able to raise funds for various projects at the time, which boosted his confidence to continue with his art."

"A lot of his works are a reflection of his travels and are also inspired by his favourite masters. Some of his works have abstract symbols; some see these as infinity, others as boats on the horizon."

*Whispers Between Worlds will open at iArt Gallery on September 12 and continue till October 15, 2025. Entry free, Sundays closed.*

## STEPOUT

### Timeless Wisdom

*The Sattvic Way: Ayurvedic Wisdom for Holistic Living* by Anushruti RK, a book that blends ancient Ayurvedic principles with practical guidance for modern life, will be launched in the city.

*At Crossword, Orion Mall, Rajajinagar, September 13, 5 pm onwards. Event is free and open to all.*

### Puppy love

This weekend Paint with Puppies, a guided painting session, comes to the city. It brings together art, animals and the community, allowing participants to indulge in brunch favourites and paint with a furry companion at their side.

*At Indiranagar SOCIAL on September 14, between 12 to 2 pm. Tickets, starting from ₹999, can be booked at District by Zomato.*

### Life by the metro

This weekend, the Linear Festival will bring contemporary dance, folk music, hip hop and a shadow puppet show, for the city to enjoy in a span of 24 hours. The six shows that are part of Linear have been planned in such a manner that the venues are within a 20-minute walking distance of the Green Metro Line.

*Tickets starting from ₹399, as well as full schedule of events available on linearfestivals.in.*

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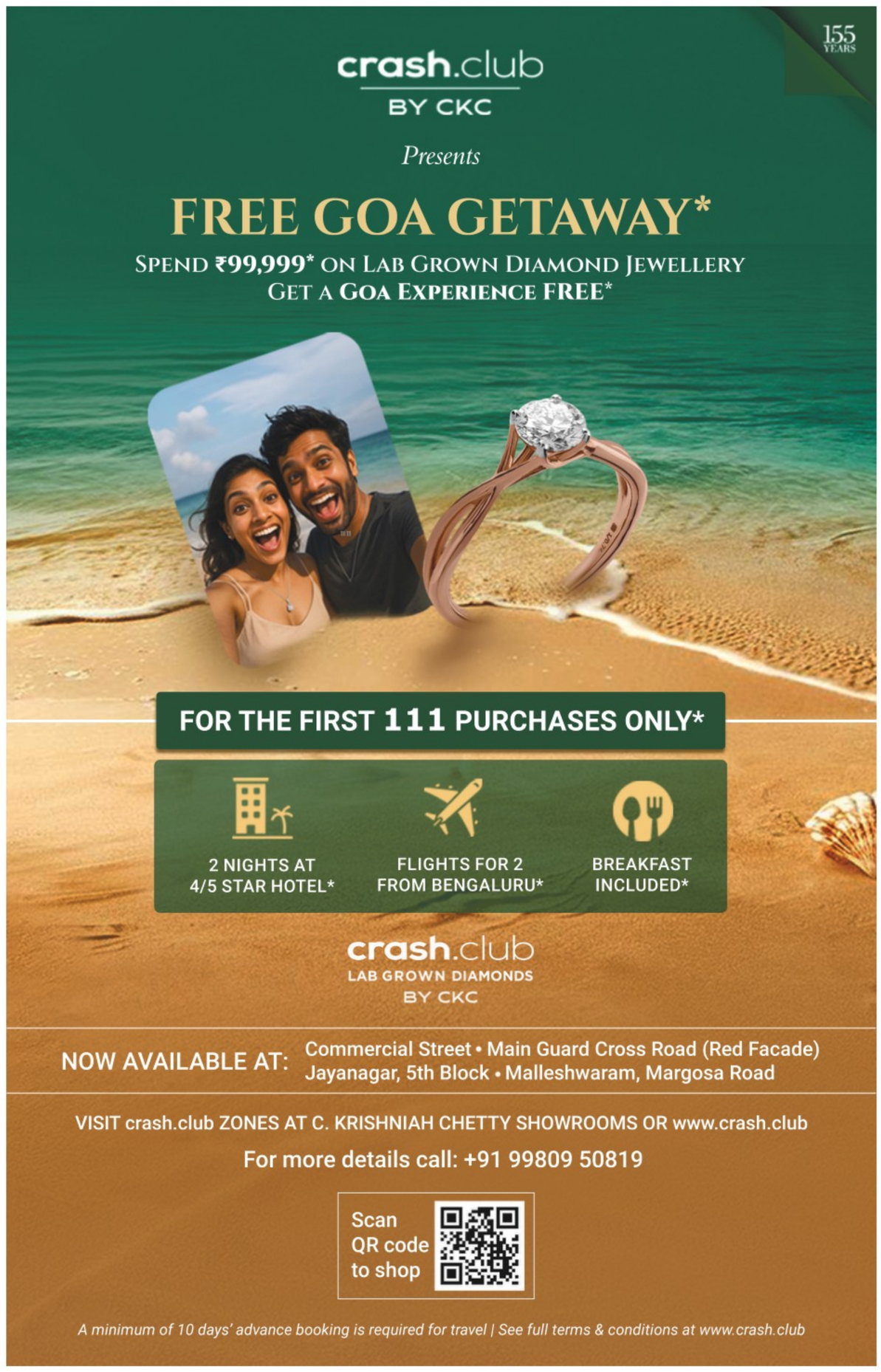
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# Special Cabinet meeting on Sept. 16 to discuss UKP-III

Land acquisition for the project to come up at meet; govt. intends to provide justice to farmers, says H.K. Patil

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A file photo of Almatti dam. Technical and legal issues concerning land acquisition for the third phase of Upper Kirshna Project are to be sorted out, after which a decision could be taken. Though land acquisition rates were informally discussed, no decision was arrived at, says H.K. Patil.

In a bid to give a push to the third phase of the Upper Krishna Project (UKP-III), which is currently mired in controversy and in limbo due to the land acquisition issue, the State government has scheduled a special Cabinet meeting for September 16 to arrive at a decision on the land acquisition issue.

"Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar have been holding consultations with the leaders and farmers' representatives from the region. To complete the project, we need to take the farmers into confidence since over 75,000 acres that will be submerged have to be acquired," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told presspersons in his post-Cabinet briefing.

Stating that the government intends to provide justice to the farmers, he said that technical and legal issues are to be sorted out, after which a decision could be taken. Though land acquisition rates were informally discussed, no decision was arrived at, he said.

Meanwhile, government sources stated that farmers could be offered solatium for relinquishing their lands to help irrigate others' lands, and that the huge compensation could be met through bonds, as the government does not have the necessary funds.

**Protocol changed**

Changing the protocol procedures in the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR), the State government also decided to restrict the number of persons to be invited and seated on the dais in public functions to a maximum of nine in ordinary circumstances.

"We have brought changes to the protocol to bring discipline. Earlier, there was no limit. Only in unavoidable circumstances, the maximum number of persons to be invited and seated on the dais will be 13. Respective district in-charge Ministers and Cabinet Ministers will decide on the people whose names are to be included in the invitation and those to be seated on the dais," Mr. Patil said.

On fears that the Opposition party members could be ignored in the new protocols, he said that no one would be ignored. Asked what would happen if the protocols are violated, he said that it would be construed as 'indiscipline'.

Among other decisions, the Cabinet approved a ₹160 crore package for 11 tribal communities, including Soliga, Hasalaru, Gowdalu, Siddi, Kudiya, Malekudiya, Kadukuruba, Iruliga, Betta Kuruba, Yarava, Paniyan and others, for a housing scheme to 6,856 households under the Chief Minister's Adivasi Gruha Bhagya scheme and ₹150 crore for Karnataka -Global Information System.

The Cabinet also approved Karnataka Minor Minerals Concessions (Amendment) Rules, 2025, which seeks to simplify permit fees and bring convenience to farmers and the public.

## State govt. unlikely to take Ordinance route on ballot papers

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The State government said that it had recommended to the State Election Commission to use ballot papers instead of electronic voting machines (EVMs) and was contemplating promulgating an ordinance to amend the legislation, but may not take the Ordinance route. While the issue was speculated to figure in the Cabinet on Thursday, the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said the Cabinet did not discuss the issue.

**SC judgment**

Government sources stated that the government is also considering not taking the Ordinance route, as the Supreme Court, in one of its judgments, has ruled that the choice between ballot paper and EVM in local bodies is left to the State. "Taking the ordinance route may trigger political debate," said the sources.

# Maddur police register *suo motu* case against Ravi for inflammatory speech

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

A case has been registered against C.T. Ravi, MLC, under Section 196(1)(a) of the BNS, based on the complaint of Manjunath, a police officer, according to the Maddur Police.

The Maddur Police have *suo motu* registered a case against C.T. Ravi, BJP leader and MLC, for his inflammatory and provocative speech during the Ganesha immersion procession held in Maddur on Wednesday.

Police inspector Shivakumar said that based on the complaint from Manjunath, a police officer, a case has been registered under Section 196(1)(a) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which criminalises promotion of enmity between two different groups or fosters disharmony and hatred.

Mr. Ravi had referred to the minority community and invoked historical contexts while deploying inflammatory expressions suggestive of violence in Maddur ahead of the Ganesha procession.

He had joined a delegation of senior BJP leaders who had gathered at Maddur, in an apparent show of strength, to take part in a mass Ganesha idol immersion event that was held amidst tight security in the town.

**Sept. 7 clashes**

This was a consequence of clashes on September 7 that had marred the immersion ceremony, following the pelting of stones, which resulted in tension in the town.

However, the situation has limped back to normality since then, and a strong posse of police was deployed for Wednesday's procession, which concluded without a hitch.

**LoP R. Ashok terms the move as 'hate politics', saying that C.T. Ravi didn't make any such speech**

But before the procession began, senior BJP leaders had lashed out at the State government and Mr. Ravi has come under scrutiny for his remarks, resulting in the police registering a case against him.

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok urged the government to withdraw the case against Mr. Ravi, arguing that the MLC had not made any hate speech.

Describing the filing of the case as part of "hate politics", he cautioned that if the government indulged in such divisive and hate politics, the BJP might respond similarly when it returns to power.

He noted that previous Chief Ministers did not engage in such hate politics and demanded the immediate withdrawal of the case against C.T. Ravi.

## From Page One

### Cabinet sub-panel to study regularisation

"Due to non-availability of biodiesel the provision for blending is only up to 7%. This move will allow retail sale of biodiesel," he said.

"Due to non-availability of biodiesel other chemicals are being sold in its name and 14 such illegal biodiesel retail outlets have been shut down in various districts in the State," added the Minister.

**Secondary treatment facility**

The Cabinet also approved setting up of a 100 MLD capacity secondary treatment facility and 25 MLD tertiary treatment plant by BWSSB near Bairamangala lake and a seven-year operation and maintenance contract at a total cost of ₹391.82 crore and a compressed biogas plant to be set up by GAIL at Haralagunte village with a capacity to handle 300 tonnes of biowaste generated in Bengaluru.

# Siddaramaiah directs Forest Department to expedite rail barricading project

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah paying tribute to martyrs at Aranya Bhavan in Bengaluru on Thursday. SUDHAKARA JAIN (ANOTHER PHOTO ON PAGE 11)

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday directed the Forest Department to speed up the process of installing railway barricades to mitigate human-elephant conflicts in the State. After paying respects to martyrs on the occasion of the National Forest Martyrs' Day, he said that as Karnataka has the highest elephant population in the country, it witnesses a large number of human-elephant conflicts, with some resulting in loss of human life.

"In order to prevent this conflict, adequate railway barricades should be installed, and they should be maintained properly. We have already installed 410 km of railway barricades. The department should speed up the process in the remaining areas," he said.

He stated that the Forest Department has sufficient funds and, if necessary, the government is prepared to provide financial support.

The Chief Minister called for increasing the forest cover in the State, which is currently about 20% of the State's geographical area.

In Karnataka, so far, 62 Forest Department personnel have laid down their lives while on duty.

"It is very important to remember forest martyrs who have laid down their lives. But it is equally important to ensure that no lives are lost," he said.

**IN THE COURT OF VI ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU**
**O.S. No. 3116/2025 (CCH-11)**

**PLAINTIFFS: 1. Plutus Research Private Limited.**, Awfis Gold, 12th Floor, Crescent 3, Prestige Shantiniketan, Mahadevpura Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560048. Represented by its Director Shivakumar Reddy Chinthala, **2. Saurabh Bhola**, S/o Ravinder Kumar Bhola, aged about 33 years, R/o Flat No.3065, Prestige Park View, Hope Farm Junction, Whitefield, Bengaluru-560066. **3. Shivakumar Reddy Chinthala**, S/o Malla Reddy Chinthala, aged about 35 years, R/o Villa No.11, Skylark Greens, Ramagondanahalli, Bengaluru-560066 **-V/s-**

**DEFENDANTS: Ashok Kumar** & Anr

**NOTICE/SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT No. 1**

To, **Ashok Kumar / John Doe**, age & Address Not Known

Whereas the above-named Plaintiffs have instituted a suit against you seeking various declaratory and injunctive reliefs in relation to the contents of the Schedule hereinbelow.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this court on **13/10/2025** at **11:00 A.M** in person or through advocate/pleader to answer the questions to the same. Failing which the suit will be heard and determined as ex-parte.

**SCHEDULE**

| Sl. No. | Date of review | Title of the review | URL |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 10.03.2025 | Real toxic culture and environment | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827 RVW95695724.htm |
| 2. | 25.03.2025 | Do not join right now, company is on the verge of collapse | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee-Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827-RVW96126648.htm |
| 3. | 31.03.2025 | All downhill from here | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee-Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827-RVW96304745.htm |
| 4. | 03.04.2025 | Toxic culture and Slavery mindset | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee-Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827-RVW96411387.htm |
| 5. | 09.04.2025 | Bad place, difficult exit, toxic management | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee-Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827-RVW96541766.htm |
| 6. | 09.04.2025 | All people regret joining here | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee-Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827-RVW96556396.htm |
| 7. | 14.04.2025 | Honest Review | https://www.glassdoor.co.in/Reviews/Employee-Review-Plutus-Research-E3005827-RVW96682241.htm |

Given under my hand and seal of the court, on this 02/09/2025
By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff: **ABHAY SHETTY**
**AZB & PARTNERS**
Level 05, 37 Cunningham, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560052

# Cyber Command Centre should be made robust: Karnataka High Court

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A view of High Court of Karnataka. FILE PHOTO

Observing that the Cyber Command Centre (CCC) should not be a mere edifice of bureaucracy but a beacon heralding a new dawn in the fight against cybercrime, the High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday said that officials posted to the CCC should not face frequent transfers.

**Directive**

Also, the court directed that it is imperative that the cybercrime helpline 1930 be integrated with the Police Information Technology application that is subsisting and all this to be a part of the CCC besides integration of the system of jurisdictional police station and the CCC for every cybercrime to be brought under the umbrella of the CCC, whether the crime is registered with jurisdictional police or the Cyber, Economic and Narcotic (CEN) police stations.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna issued the directions while monitoring the progress made in making the CCC operational as per the directions issued by the court in April this year.

Stating that the CCC must be insulated from external intrusion, the court said the officers, particularly the head of CCC, should not be frequently moved out of the centre, unless warranted at least until a year or two, till the teething problems of CCC or the birth pangs of the establishment do not get obviated.

"The head of the CCC and his team working in the CCC must not be overnight de-positioned, without the consultation of the head of the CCC. I make it clear that it is consultation and not information, as any investigation by the CCC under way, should not be thwarted by repeated change of officers of the CCC," Justice Nagaprasanna observed.

**Transparency**

The court also made it clear that it would be the duty of the CCC to ensure transparency in its functioning and take steps towards such transparency, including alleged corruption within the CCC.

**1930 helpline**

Pointing out that police officers, who act on complaints received on loss of money from bank accounts, take steps for freezing and de-freezing accounts to secure return of lost money without any documents, the court made it clear that it is necessary that the conversation of 1930 helpline should be recorded as part of the police/information technology system.

If necessary, draw up a zero FIR against each of the complaints received by the helpline, said the court.

The State government is expected to make the CCC robust, people-friendly, deft and iron-handed to handle cybercrimes, the court said, while directing the head of the CCC to submit a status report by September 24 on the progress in the investigation of cybercrimes or integration of information and technology cases to be done under one roof i.e. CCC.

**TAMIL NADU RURAL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT 2.0**
(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ, GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU)
5th Floor, SIDCO Corporate Office Building, Thiru. Vi. Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai- 600 032.
Phone No.044 - 43443200 Email – procurement.tnrtp2@gmail.com Website: www.vkp-tnrtp.org

File No: 303/P&C/2025 Date : 12.09.2025

**REQUEST FOR INVITE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR HIRING OF TECHNICAL FACILITATION AGENCY FOR EXTERNAL MONITORING & EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT**

The Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project 2.0 invites "Expression of Interest" from the eligible agencies to submit their interest for providing services for World Bank funded TNRTP 2.0 Project for **"Hiring of Technical Facilitation Agency for External Monitoring & Evaluation of the Project"**. Interested agencies may submit their **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST"** in a sealed envelope clearly super scribed as Expression of Interest for **"Hiring of Technical Facilitation Agency for External Monitoring & Evaluation of the Project"** latest by 17.00 hours on 30.09.2025. This selection will be done on Quality and Cost based Selection (QCBS) of the World Bank. The agencies may obtain further information and procedures for submitting the "Expression of Interest" from the official website of TNRTP i.e., www.vkp-tnrtp.org.

**Chief Executive Officer, TNRTP**

DIPR/1060/Display/2025

**NOTICE INVITING BID**
**Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)**
**In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001**
**Tel.:(0674) 2380950; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in ; Email: drugs-osmcl@od.gov.in**

**Bid Ref.No.:OSMCL/2025-26/Hydroxyurea/05 Date: 12/09/2025**

**Online Bids** through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **supply of Cap. Hydroxyurea for the year 2025-26 as per the particulars mentioned below :**

| Sl. No. | Particulars | Date and time | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Date & time of release of bid | 12/09/2025, 3 PM | |
| 2. | Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail id - drugs-osmcl@od.gov.in | 17/09/2025, up to 5:00 PM | |
| 3. | Date & time of Online bid submission | Start Date & Time | End Date & Time |
| | | 19/09/2025, 3 PM | 15/10/2025, 6.00 PM |
| 4. | Date & time for submission of Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee and EMD amount as per section-IV of tender document | Start Date & Time | End Date & Time |
| | | 16/10/2025, 10 AM | 23/10/2025,11.00 AM |
| 5. | Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening | 23/10/2025, 11:30 AM | |
| 6. | Date of opening of Price Bid | To be informed to the qualified bidders | |

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in and https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof. All notice will be published in the OSMCL website **www.osmcl.nic.in**. Hence the bidders are requested to visit OSMCL website **www.osmcl.nic.in** time to time for any published notice against the tender.

**Sd/- Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha**

CAD-1741 OIPR-10112/11/0032/2526

**OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE**

**DEATH**

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**ANGELINA MARSHALL**
**JULY 31, 1927 - SEPTEMBER7, 2025**
**Grieving Daughter Lata**

**IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES**
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## INBRIEF

### Veteran Congress leader P.P. Thankachan passes away

Kerala's veteran Congress leader and former Speaker P.P. Thankachan, 87, passed away at a hospital in Ernakulam on Thursday. Doctors attributed his death to acute respiratory illness and complications of advanced age. He was born at Angamaly in 1939 to a Jacobite priest, Father Paulose Pynadath, and Annamma. A lawyer by profession, he forayed into electoral politics at a relatively young age. He served as the 14th Speaker of the Kerala Legislative Assembly from 1991 to 1995 and as Agriculture Minister in 1995.

### Student held in Telangana over alleged terror links

A 20-year-old B. Pharma student from Bhodan in Nizamabad district of Telangana, was taken into custody by the Delhi Police's Special Cell on Wednesday over alleged terror links.

The accused was identified as Mohammad Huzaifa Yemen. His arrest followed the confession of a Jharkhand-based suspect, Danish, who revealed details about a group being formed to unite people under a 'lashkar' that could be activated in case of communal unrest.

### Forest watcher dies while on duty in Nagarahole

A forest watcher collapsed and died of a heart attack in D.B. Kuppe range of Nagarahole Tiger Reserve on Thursday. The deceased is Raju, 48, of Anemale in H.D. Kote taluk. He was patrolling near Suttanahalli camp with other watchers when they encountered an elephant.

Raju was overcome by shock and collapsed and hence is suspected to have died of cardiac arrest, according to Seema, DCF, Nagarahole.

# Kerala to initiate SIR of electoral rolls soon: CEO

Chief Electoral Officer Rathan U. Kelkar indicates that the SIR process will begin in October, and adds that his office is awaiting a formal announcement of schedule by the Election Commission

**Tiki Rajwi**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Rathan U. Kelkar

After Bihar, it is Kerala's turn for the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls as the southern State moves towards 2026 Assembly elections.

Chief Electoral Officer, Kerala, Rathan U. Kelkar, said on Thursday that his office was awaiting a formal announcement of the SIR schedule for Kerala by the Election Commission of India (EC), but indicated that the roll-out could likely be in October.

Mr. Kelkar said his office had been laying the groundwork for the exercise and had uploaded the rolls prepared under the 2002 intensive revision, the last time it was held in Kerala, on the CEO Kerala's website. The SIR arrangements in Kerala were presented at a review held by the EC in New Delhi on the preparedness of States on Wednesday.

"We have been asked to be ready. I feel it may happen sometime in October," Mr. Kelkar said, adding that he was planning to meet political parties in the State on September 20.

Mr. Kelkar sought to allay fears saying that no eligible voter would be left out of the rolls.

"We don't feel that SIR will affect any eligible citizen in Kerala. Complaints regarding the electoral roll will be settled once and for all when the SIR is done," he said, adding that the SIR would make the rolls more "sanitised and healthier" and keep out non-citizens.

### Postal ballots for NRI voters may turn a reality

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Postal ballots for overseas electors may soon become a reality with the Election Commission of India exploring its feasibility. Chief Electoral Officer Rathan U. Kelkar said that his office had urged the EC to introduce the facility for the upcoming Assembly elections in Kerala.

# Ramadoss removes son Anbumani from PMK's primary membership; K. Balu says decision 'invalid'

**The Hindu Bureau**
VILLUPURAM / CHENNAI

The tussle between Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) founder S. Ramadoss and his estranged son Anbumani Ramadoss reached a crescendo on Thursday , when the former announced the expulsion of party leader Mr. Anbumani from the primary membership of the PMK with immediate effect. However, K. Balu, a key confidante of Mr. Anbumani, termed Mr. Ramadoss' announcement "invalid" as it went against the party's rules and bylaws.

Announcing the decision at a press conference in Villupuram district, Mr. Ramadoss said the Disciplinary Action Committee of the PMK had levelled 16 charges against Mr. Anbumani.

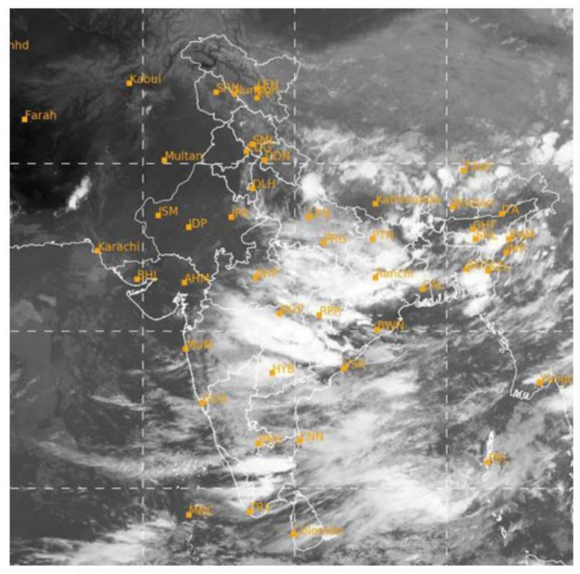
A show-cause notice was served on him seeking explanation, but he did not respond to it. Though Mr. Anbumani was granted an extension of time to reply to the notice, he preferred neither submitting his written explanation nor appearing in person to respond to the charges.

This only goes to show that Mr. Anbumani has no valid grounds to present his reply, and in accordance with the party's bylaws and rules, he has been removed from the post of "working president" as well as from the primary membership of the party, Mr. Ramadoss said.

Mr. Ramadoss also accused Mr. Anbumani of indulging in "anti-party activities" that had damaged the reputation of the organisation in an unprecedented manner. He appealed to party workers not to have any truck with Mr. Anbumani and warned that he would not hesitate to take action against anyone who defied the decision.

## WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday




TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.45 HRS)

**Forecast for Friday:** Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Marathwada, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | 2 | 32.5 | 26.4 | Kozhikode | — | 32.8 | 25.9 |
| Ahmedabad | — | 33.8 | 25.4 | Kurnool | 31 | 26.6 | 24.0 |
| Aizawl | 0.3 | 32.0 | 22.0 | Lucknow | — | 34.5 | 26.6 |
| Allahabad | — | 33.7 | 26.9 | Madurai | 6 | 36.7 | 24.6 |
| Bengaluru | 56 | 26.0 | 19.9 | Mangaluru | — | 30.2 | 24.8 |
| Bhopal | — | 31.4 | 22.0 | Mumbai | — | 31.5 | 25.0 |
| Bhubaneswar | — | 36.0 | 26.0 | Mysuru | — | 31.0 | 20.0 |
| Chandigarh | — | 33.5 | 25.1 | New Delhi | — | 34.0 | 24.5 |
| Chennai | — | 33.3 | 26.0 | Patna | 14 | 29.4 | 26.7 |
| Coimbatore | — | 30.8 | 23.6 | Port Blair | 3 | 27.6 | 23.7 |
| Dehradun | 0.4 | 31.3 | 24.7 | Puducherry | — | 33.4 | 24.4 |
| Gangtok | — | 22.6 | 18.7 | Pune | — | 31.6 | 23.0 |
| Goa | — | 31.8 | 24.6 | Raipur | 3.6 | 31.1 | 23.9 |
| Guwahati | — | 34.4 | 27.2 | Ranchi | 56 | 30.2 | 22.6 |
| Hubballi | — | 29.0 | 22.0 | Shillong | 0.8 | 24.4 | 16.9 |
| Hyderabad | 2 | 29.6 | 22.6 | Shimla | 5.6 | 23.8 | 19.0 |
| Imphal | — | 31.3 | 25.1 | Srinagar | — | 31.4 | 16.4 |
| Jaipur | — | 33.6 | 24.7 | Thiruvananthapuram | — | 31.2 | 25.2 |
| Kochi | — | 30.0 | 25.2 | Tiruchi | — | 34.3 | 24.0 |
| Kohima | 6 | 22.0 | 18.9 | Vijayawada | 3 | 36.2 | 25.7 |
| Kolkata | — | 35.6 | 28.4 | Visakhapatnam | 0.1 | 31.4 | 26.4 |

*(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)*

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | .23 | .23 | 67 | 54 | 81 | |
| Bengaluru | 6 | .37 | 29 | 55 | 78 | |
| Chennai | 2 | .22 | — | 57 | 112 | |
| Delhi | .10 | .13 | 22 | 206 | 123 | |
| Hyderabad | .15 | .20 | 36 | 49 | 50 | |
| Kolkata | 7 | .48 | 21 | 61 | 61 | |
| Lucknow | .10 | .10 | 41 | 119 | 75 | |
| Mumbai | .37 | 4 | .5 | 79 | 87 | |
| Pune | — | .42 | 24 | 67 | 114 | |
| Visakhapatnam | .11 | .47 | 16 | 86 | 117 | |

**Yesterday**

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 235 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Karur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

**Air Quality Code:** Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

### Kerala reports sixth death due to brain infection in a month

**The Hindu Bureau**
KOZHIKODE

Kerala reported another death due to amoebic meningoencephalitis on Thursday, the sixth in a month due to the infection, when a native of Malappuram died at the Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode.

**Source unclear**

Shaji, 49, a resident of Chelembra in Malappuram, had been undergoing treatment at the hospital for over a week. The source of the infection is still unclear.

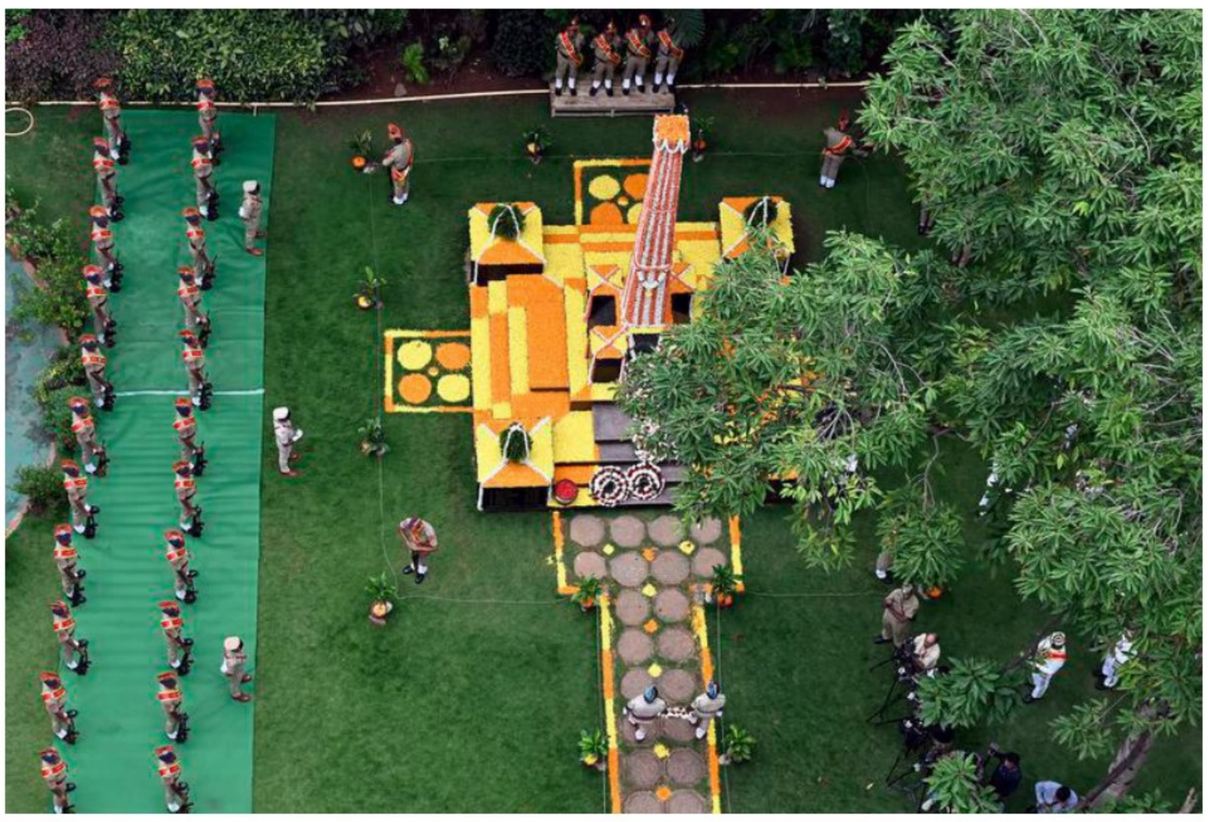
At present, nine persons are receiving treatment for the disease at the Medical College Hospital. Another patient, who tested positive for the infection on Wednesday, is receiving treatment at a private hospital in Kozhikode city.

Since August 14, Anaya, a native of Thamarassery, a three-month-old child from Omassery, both in Kozhikode district, Ratheesh, a native of Wayanad, and Shobhana, a native of Wandoor in Malappuram, died in a span of less than a month due to the deadly disease affecting the brain.

On September 8, two children undergoing treatment for amoebic meningoencephalitis were discharged from the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital after they had recovered.

Amoebic meningoencephalitis, a rare but fatal brain infection caused by free-living amoebae found in freshwater, lakes and rivers, has emerged as a public health concern in Kerala.

### *Green salute*


Security personnel pay tribute on the National Forest Martyrs Day at Aranya Bhavan in Bengaluru on Thursday. It is celebrated annually on September 11 to honour those who sacrificed their lives to protect India's forests and wildlife. SUDHAKARA JAIN

# TDB denies violation of custom in repair of gold-plated idols

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) president P.S. Prasanth has denied any violation of temple custom in the repair of the gold-plated sheets on the Dwarapalaka idols at the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple entrance.

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday asked the TDB to bring back the gold-plated sheets that had been taken to a Chennai-based facility for restoration.

Speaking to presspersons here on Thursday, Mr. Prasanth said that the Board will file a review petition and inform the HC about the practical difficulties in bringing back the panels, on which an electroplating process is being carried out.

"The tantris are the last word on temple customs... As per the Devaswom manual, all such works are to be handled by the Thiruvabharanam Commissioner. We followed all the proceedings transparently. Currently, the gold plating and the copper are in a separated state as part of the electroplating process. So, it is impossible to bring back the panels immediately," he said.

### Virtual queue glitch sparks row ahead of Ayyappa meet

**The Hindu Bureau**
PATHANAMTHITTA

Even as it moves forward with its plan to host the Global Ayyappa Sangamam at Pampa on September 20, the TDB found itself in another row following allegations of attempts to regulate the booking of virtual queue slots for *darshan* at the Sabarimala temple.

The row stemmed from reports that devotees who tried to book slots in the virtual queue for September 19 and 20, coinciding with the five-day monthly pujas, were unable to complete the process due to glitches on the booking website.

### Media urged not to play into hands of those bent on denting Tirumala's image

**The Hindu Bureau**
TIRUPATI

TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu addressing the media after inaugurating the renovated Tirupati Press Club on Thursday.
K.V. POORNACHANDRA KUMAR

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Chairman B.R. Naidu has appealed to the media to use discretion while providing coverage and not to provide a platform for those airing negative and baseless criticism against the sacred temple.

Mr. Naidu inaugurated the renovated premises of the Tirupati Press Club here on Thursday. MLA Arani Srinivasulu, Collector S. Venkateswar, Tirupati Urban Development Authority (TUDA) Chairman C. Divakar Reddy, AP Handicrafts Development Corporation Chairman P. Hariprasad, Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP) Chairman A. Ravi Naidu, and TTD Trust Board member G. Bhanuprakash Reddy were present.

It was in this backdrop that Mr. Naidu made a serious observation on the media coverage trend and the "sense of caution required to be exercised" before becoming the medium for such "negative publicity" against the temple.

Mr. Naidu's response came in the wake of a series of allegations, though unsubstantiated, heaped on a regular basis against the TTD management by the opposition party leaders, in an apparent bid to embarrass the State government.

"All that Tirupati is today is because of Lord Venkateswara. I urge you not to play into the hands of the negative forces that try to use you as the platform to heap baseless charges with a mala fide intention against the TTD, which is the custodian of Lord Venkateswara," he observed.

# Researchers in Kerala tap red ivy plant to develop innovative wound-healing pad

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Traditional practitioners have long been using red ivy plant to treat cuts and wounds. FILE PHOTO

Researchers at the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden & Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Palode in Thiruvananthapuram, have tapped into the wound-healing properties of the red ivy plant, locally known as *murikooti pacha* (*Strobilanthes alternata*, belonging to the Acanthaceae family) to develop an innovative and multifunctional wound-healing pad using nanomaterials like electro-spun.

The product was developed by a team of scientists at the Centre of Excellence in Phytochemical Nanotechnology of the JNTBGRI by identifying and isolating a new molecule, acteoside, from the red ivy plant.

Red ivy grows abundantly across tropical regions, including India, and traditional practitioners have long been using it to treat cuts and wounds. Acteoside is a natural compound found in many plants and its pharmacological activities and therapeutic potential is well-known. However, this is the first time acteoside has been linked to the red ivy plant, the researchers say.

The key ingredient in the multi-layered wound pad developed by the scientists is the acteoside molecule derived from the red ivy plant, which has high efficacy even at lower concentrations of 0.2%.

The wound pad has been designed with a specially engineered electro-spun nanofiber layer, made from biodegradable and non-toxic polymers and is incredibly thin. Along with acteoside, it also incorporates the antibiotic neomycin sulfate, blended with FDA-approved polymers.

The porous electro-spun nanofibre layer facilitates optimal gas exchange, allowing the wound to "breathe."

## Relief for refugees

### India and Sri Lanka must help voluntary repatriation of refugees

The formulation of the Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025, notified by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs on September 1, provides greater clarity on certain issues concerning India's immigration framework. It exempts a set of people from the requirement of a valid passport or other valid travel document and valid visa to enter, stay and exit the country. Apart from specified sets of Indian citizens, it covers nationals of Nepal and Bhutan; Tibetan refugees; six religious minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, and Sri Lankan Tamils. A significant aspect is the reference to the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees, with many living in Tamil Nadu since 1990. The order protects them from forcible repatriation to Sri Lanka, the stipulations being that they should have taken shelter in the country as on January 9, 2015 and registered themselves. In the last 30-odd years, neither the Union government nor the Tamil Nadu government had drawn up any unilateral plan to send them back. In fact, after the end of the civil war in Sri Lanka in 2009, both the governments have been doing their bit to ensure their welfare. Yet, Sri Lankan Tamils were not included when the Union government amended the Citizenship Act six years ago to provide citizenship to the six non-Muslim groups from three Muslim-majority countries. Thus, the order gives Tamil refugees some relief.

However, there are unanswered questions. It is not clear whether the refugees will be able to shake off their "illegal migrants" tag. A hurdle in their applying for Indian citizenship – by registration under Section 5 of the Citizenship Act, 1955 or by naturalisation under Section 6 of the Act is that they are 'illegal migrants' as per the law. When the refugees are not considered eligible to apply for a Long Term Visa (LTV) it is doubtful whether they will be able to seek citizenship. LTVs will enable their gainful employment and higher education. In the run-up to the enactment of the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2009, the Ministry had justified their exclusion and had taken the stand that they were among those eligible for LTVs if they could prove that they had been "victims of oppression in their countries of origin...." The Centre would do well if it liberalised its stand on LTVs for the deserving among the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees. The certificate of identity for Tibetan refugees can be a model. It is also time that India and Sri Lanka took early steps for voluntary repatriation along with a scheme of structured assistance. Local integration is also an option to sort out the issue. Fundamentally, the stakeholders should adopt a humane approach.

## Reckless escalation

### India should be more forthright in opposing Israel's regional war

Even by Israel's own standards, its September 9 attack on Qatar, targeting Hamas leaders, was a reckless escalation of the regional conflict – one that could make peace in Gaza even harder to achieve. Since Hamas's October 7, 2023 assault, Israel has bombed a number of Arab countries, besides devastating Gaza. Its strikes on Iran in June triggered a brief aerial war. Israel keeps attacking Syria, Lebanon and Yemen at will. But Qatar, a wealthy Gulf monarchy, is a U.S. ally that hosts America's largest military base in West Asia, and a crucial mediator in ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas. Yet, none of this deterred Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who claimed "full responsibility" for the attack. Israeli jets targeted a house where Hamas leaders had reportedly assembled to discuss a ceasefire proposal. The strike drew sharp criticism and condemnation from across the world. Even U.S. President Donald Trump, Israel's greatest ally with whose blessings Mr. Netanyahu is carrying out his genocidal war on Palestinians in Gaza, said he was unhappy, while the White House has assured Qatar that there would be no more attacks.

Besides the flagrant violation of sovereignty, the Qatar strike risks setting back efforts to end the Gaza war. Qatar has long hosted Hamas's political leadership, with the tacit approval of the U.S. and other world powers, to keep channels of negotiation open. Last month, Hamas accepted a ceasefire proposal put forward by the mediators, but Mr. Netanyahu rejected it and vowed to press ahead with conquering famine-stricken Gaza City. Now, by attacking Hamas leaders in the mediator country, he has demonstrated his unwillingness to pursue peace. A ceasefire could threaten his government's survival – and he appears willing to prolong the war, even at the cost of more Palestinian lives. The strike also delivers another blow to the already fragile Arab-Israel normalisation process. Saudi Arabia, which has walked back from normalisation talks since October 7, would find it harder to recognise an Israeli state that bombs its Gulf Arab neighbour. Israel's unchecked military aggression also exposes the failure of Mr. Trump, who has called himself a "man of peace" with claims of having ended even the India-Pakistan conflict of May 2025. But when it comes to Israel, which is facing serious allegations of war crimes and genocide, he seems either unable or unwilling to use the leverage at his disposal. India should be alarmed by Israel's move to expand the war to the Gulf, an energy-rich region where millions of Indians live. Prime Minister Modi has condemned the "violation" of Qatar's sovereignty without naming Israel. India should be more forthright in opposing Israel's regional war, and work with other regional and global powers to restore stability in West Asia.

# A project of strategic and national importance

**Bhupender Yadav**

is Union Cabinet Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

The Great Nicobar Island Project, envisaged by the Narendra Modi government, is an ambitious project with an integrated development plan that comprises an international container transhipment terminal (ICTT) with a capacity of 14.2 million TEU (Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit), a greenfield international airport, a 450 MVA gas and solar-based power plant, and township of an area of 16,610 hectares.

The project, of strategic, defence and national importance, is designed to transform Great Nicobar into a major hub of maritime and air connectivity in the Indian Ocean Region. The project poses no threat to the island's tribal groups, does not come in the way of any species, and does not jeopardise the eco-sensitivity of the region.

**Scrutiny at many levels**

Before the project was given the green signal, detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies were carried out and an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) was prepared which, inter alia, include mitigation measures to minimise the impact during the project's construction and operation phases. The commitment to environment and wildlife conservation can be seen in the fact that while no construction has started, an amount of ₹81.55 crore has already been released to various research institutes and departments for initiating wildlife conservation plans.

The risk assessment study has been carried out based on the two sources – anthropogenic and natural disasters and a vulnerability and disaster management plan have been prepared accordingly.

The measuring 166.10 square kilometres (35.35 sq. km revenue land and 130.75 sq. km forest land) has been conceived in three distinct phases, phase I (2025-35) 72.12 sq. km, phase II (2036-41) 45.27 sq. km and phase III (2042-47) 48.71 sq. km.

The project has undergone an appraisal at multiple levels, including statutory scrutiny under the EIA Notification, 2006 (as amended), and clearance has been granted only after compliance with prescribed procedures.

The project will not displace the Nicobarese and the Shompen tribes. The only habitation of the Shompens or the Nicobarese in the project area is at New Chingen, Rajiv Nagar and the administration is not proposing the displacement of any tribal habitations. A committee to oversee welfare and issues related to the Shompen and the Nicobarese has also been mandated in the EC's condition to address the issues of these tribes during the construction and the operation of the project.

Due consultation with tribal experts which includes the Anthropological Survey of India has been done in order to ensure the safety, protection, welfare and well-being of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in the wake of Holistic Development of the Great Nicobar Island Project. The Andaman and Nicobar administration has also made adequate budgetary provisions for tribal welfare plans throughout the project period and beyond in compliance of EC and Coastal Regulation Zone clearances. At present, the Great Nicobar Island has a Tribal Reserve area measuring 751.070 sq. km. Out of the total area proposed for development, measuring 166.10 sq.km, only 84.10 sq. km falls within the Tribal Reserve. Out of the 84.10 sq. km, an area of 11.032 sq. km is already under habitation since 1972 as it is part of revenue area. Thus, the effectively remaining area that measures 73.07 sq. km is being de-notified for the purpose of this project. To compensate the same, an area measuring 76.98 sq. km is being re-notified as tribal reserve. Effectively, there will be a net addition of an area of 3.912 sq. km in the tribal reserve area of the Great Nicobar Island. In Phase I, only 40.01 sq. km of the Tribal Area falls in the Great Nicobar Island project, out of which 11.032 sq. km is already under revenue since 1972. The provision in respect of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes is provided for under Article 338A(9), which states: "The Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting Scheduled Tribes." It would be relevant to mention here that the Union Territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has not undertaken any new policy measure affecting the Scheduled Tribes – except that a development project is being implemented in Great Nicobar.

> The decision to develop Great Nicobar Island has been taken after due consideration of its ecological, social and strategic aspects

**The relevant issues**

The development plan is in sync with the Shompen Policy. The policy allows large-scale development proposals in Great Nicobar Island subject to consultation with the Ministry, Directorate of Tribal Welfare and the Andaman Adim Janjati VikasSamiti. Necessary consultation with the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs was also carried out and it is based on the recommendation of the Empowered Committee.

Two important policy documents – the Jarawa Policy of 2004 and Shompen Policy of 2015 – clearly specify the process of consultation. The Jarawa Policy of 2004 declares the AAJVS as the trustee of the PVTGs. The Shompen Policy of 2015 specifies, vide paragraph 6.3, that "With regard to large-scale development proposals in the future for Great Nicobar Island (such as trans-shipment/container terminal, etc), the welfare and integrity of the Shompen community should be given priority and be reviewed in consultation with the Department of Tribal Welfare and Andaman Adim Janjati VikasSamiti (AAJVS) and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs". This is being followed in letter and spirit.

In its observations, the Empowered Committee has clearly stated that the interests of tribal population will not be affected adversely and that the displacement of tribals would not be allowed.

The decision to develop Great Nicobar Island has been taken after a comprehensive consideration of its ecological, social, and strategic aspects. The project is of national and strategic importance, is expected to accelerate holistic development, will generate employment, and will position the Islands not only from strategic and defence point of view but also from economic point of view.

This is about only 2% of the total area of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Further, 130.75 sq. km of forest area is proposed to be diverted for the project which is only approximately 1.82% of the total forest area of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. As in the guidelines of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the States/Union Territories with forest land of more than 75% of their respective total geographical area, shall not be insisted upon for providing non-forest land for raising compensatory afforestation and the same may be taken up in any other State/Union Territory having deficient forest land/cover and having land bank for compensatory afforestation.

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a recorded forest cover of more than 75% of their geographical area, and the compensatory afforestation is proposed to be raised in other States in conformity with the aforesaid guideline formulated by the Ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and in view of the fact that sufficient non-forest land for the purpose is not available in this Union Territory. Land measuring 97.30 sq. km has been identified in Haryana for diversion of phase I of forest land measuring 48.65 sq. km.

The total estimated number of trees in 130.75 sq.km of forest land to be diverted is 18.65 lakh. However, the maximum estimated number of trees to be felled in forest area measuring 49.86 sq. km is 7.11 lakh. As per the Environmental and Forest Clearance condition, an area measuring 65.99 sq. km shall be retained as green area wherein no tree felling is envisaged.

**Studies by institutions of standing**

All the institutions engaged in conducting various environmental studies for the project – including the Zoological Survey of India, the Botanical Survey of India, the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), and the Wildlife Institute of India – are reputed government organisations with a long-standing presence and institutional capacity in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. These institutes possess extensive historical datasets and a deep understanding of the local ecological context, having conducted research and data collection in the region over several decades.

For facilitating movement of wildlife between forest and the sea shore and for the crossing of arboreal animals as well as for passage of snakes, crabs and crocodiles, safe wildlife corridors at eight locations along the eastern side of the island (connecting forest and seashore through viaducts in the north south arterial road) have been proposed and incorporated in the master plan.

The Narendra Modi government remains committed to the welfare of tribal groups, environmental safeguards, and sustainable development. Comprehensive safeguards have been prescribed to ensure the long-term protection of the Shompen and the Nicobarese communities.

The Great Nicobar Project is a significant example of economy and ecology complementing each other. It combines the objectives of economic growth, infrastructure development and employment generation with critical national security imperatives, thereby contributing to India's long-term strategic and developmental interests in the Indian Ocean Region while also protecting the environment.

# A 'health check' for the new GST health-care reforms

**Dr. Ankur Mutreja**

is the Director of External Affairs and Health Security, PATH

**Neeraj Jain**

is the Director of Growth for the Asia, Middle East and Europe, PATH

India's recently announced Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms mark a turning point in the journey towards achieving universal health coverage. This overhaul of health-care taxation signals a strong push to make medical care more affordable and accessible for millions, especially those struggling with high costs of treatment or health products.

**Sectoral changes**

The biggest win for households is the complete removal of GST on individual health and life insurance premiums. Until now, a family paying ₹50,000 a year for health insurance had to add on another ₹9,000 in GST. From September 22, 2025, that extra burden disappears – making insurance 18% cheaper. The reform covers all types of individual life insurance – term, Unit Linked Insurance Plan (ULIP), and endowment – as well as health insurance plans such as family floaters and senior citizen policies. Even reinsurance is included, so the entire chain benefits. This step directly supports India's policy goals, tackling one of the biggest hurdles to insurance coverage, which today is only about 3.7% of GDP compared to a global average of 6.8%. How much consumers actually gain, however, will depend on whether insurers pass these savings on. Without clear monitoring, there is a risk that part of the benefit could get absorbed before reaching policyholders.

Hospital room charges continue to be treated differently under GST. Rooms costing less than ₹5,000 a day remain exempt, protecting middle- and lower-income families. Non-intensive care unit (ICU) rooms above ₹5,000 per day still attract 5%GST without input tax credit, a rule in place since July 2022. By contrast, all critical care units – ICU, Critical Care Unit (CCU), Intensive Coronary Care Unit (ICCU), and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) – stay fully exempt from GST regardless of cost. This ensures that lifesaving care remains tax-free, while only premium accommodation choices during in-patient care face tax. Core medical services provided by hospitals, doctors, and paramedics also remain GST-exempt, keeping treatment itself untaxed. In short, there is no change here – the system continues as it has since 2022.

> Under GST 2.0, the government has built a framework that supports the health-care chain

**Business impact**

The recent GST cuts substantially reshape costs for health product manufacturers and service providers. By lowering GST on most medicines to 5% and cutting tax on life-saving drugs to zero, the GST Council has simplified compliance and lowered prices in supply chains.

Medical devices and diagnostics are now largely under a uniform 5% slab. In practice, this means that hospitals buying diagnostic kits that earlier attracted 12% GST will now pay only 5%, reducing procurement costs. For example, a CT scan machine is now taxed at only 5% compared to 18% earlier. A hospital purchasing a CT scan machine, will face a much lower upfront bill, reducing capital costs and potentially lowering patient charges over time.

Common services such as blood tests, X-rays, and MRIs at laboratories may also become a little cheaper. While laboratories themselves remain GST-exempt on services, their inputs – kits, reagents and equipment – are now taxed less. If laboratories pass on the savings, patients should see reductions in routine test prices. Pharmacies and small clinics gain from simpler tax structures and sharper price competitiveness. Manufacturers and distributors will need to adjust pricing and contracts, while hospitals and labs can negotiate better terms with insurers and corporate clients.

The reforms do not stop at treatment. They also push preventive health. GST on gymnasiums, fitness centres, yoga studios, salons, barbers and wellness services is down from 18% to 5%. Cigarettes remain heavily taxed at 28% GST plus compensation cess, which adds up to an effective tax of between 52% and 88%. A new 40% "sin goods" slab has been announced but will only apply once cess liabilities are cleared. Sugary drinks – whether aerated, sweetened, or flavoured – have been moved to the new 40% slab, up from 28% plus cess, placing all such beverages in the highest tax bracket to discourage consumption and generate revenue for public health. For everyday households, healthier living becomes a little easier: personal care items such as hair oil, soap bars, shampoos, toothpaste, toothbrushes, talcum powder, face powder, shaving cream, and aftershave now fall to 5% GST from the earlier 12% to 18%. A ₹100 shampoo bottle that earlier cost ₹112 to ₹118 with GST will now cost only ₹105.

**In perspective**

These GST reforms are designed to reshape how India funds health care in line with the 2047 Viksit Bharat goals. By removing GST on insurance, cutting costs for life-saving medicines, simplifying taxes on equipment, and lowering rates on preventive services, the government has built a framework that supports the entire health-care chain.

The true test of success will not be in higher revenue collections but in how many more treatments people can access, whether preventive and wellness services become routine, how far consumer trust in health care grows, whether misuse of antibiotics and Schedule H drugs is curbed, and, most importantly, how many lives are saved.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**A new turn**

It will be naive to take Donald Trump's assurance of a resumption of trade negotiations for granted. Here is an American President whose mood swings guide his presidential decisions. India cannot bluntly refuse the offer but it may have to deal with America with heightened caution. Even if one assumes that Mr. Trump is genuine in his idea to resume trade negotiations, his aides in his cabinet may be smart. The recently-imposed high tariffs on Indian goods should be withdrawn as a precondition for the resumption of talks. If Mr. Trump refuses to do so, there is no point in fresh negotiations. Looking at the issue from this angle, here is a great chance for India to regain lost ground (Front page, "Trump, Modi, signal trade negotiations may resume", September 11).

**V. Lakshmanan,**
Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu

**Corrections & Clarifications**

Sasikanth Senthil is a Lok Sabha MP from Tiruvallur, and not MLA as mentioned in a report, "SC flags Governors sitting on Bills as Centre terms dispute a 'false alarm'" (September 11, 2025).

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

# Is the BJP helping or hobbling the AIADMK?

**Panruti S. Ramachandran**

is a seven-time legislator, and a former Minister in the Cabinets led by M. Karunanidhi (DMK) and M.G. Ramachandran (AIADMK). He is the political affairs adviser to the group headed by former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam

**R. Kannan**

is a former diplomat with the United Nations who has authored books on C.N. Annadurai and MGR, besides the DMK

PARLEY

On September 8, the AIADMK's former School Education Minister K.A. Sengottaiyan, who last week set a 10-day-long deadline for the party general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami to resolve the issue of re-admitting to the organisation all those who had left the party, met Union Ministers Amit Shah and Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi. According to Mr. Sengottaiyan, he discussed, among others, the unification of different factions of the AIADMK. This was not for the first time that the BJP had evinced interest in setting the AIADMK house in order. Former Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam, who led a revolt against the party's former interim general secretary V.K. Sasikala in February 2017, had publicly stated many times that it was on the advice of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that he had merged his faction with what was headed by the then Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami in August that year. **T. Ramakrishnan** discusses the BJP's role in AIADMK's internal affairs with Panruti S. Ramachandran and Dr. R. Kannan. Excerpts:

**Why is it that the intra-party tussle in the AIADMK seems like an unending affair?**

**Panruti S. Ramachandran:** The problem in the AIADMK is the leadership. Unfortunately, there is no all-embracing leadership at present. That is why the internal conflict is raging on. That problem affects the party organisation also. In fact, the rank and file does not know what to do due to this leadership problem. In the past, both M.G. Ramachandran (MGR) and J. Jayalalithaa had commanding leadership. And the organisation was also built around their personality. In the absence of such a personality now, the AIADMK is facing this internal crisis. I don't think it can be easily resolved.

**R. Kannan:** I don't think it is an unending affair. I think the question has been very convincingly settled. There is no dispute that Edappadi K. Palaniswami (EPS) is the undisputed leader of the AIADMK. The tussle that is happening now is for those who have been thrown out of the party through EPS's machinations – there should be room for them. This is a party they all built together and they're out in the cold now. And so this is not just a tussle for leadership, as we seem to think. Even for someone like Jayalalithaa, whom I consider a political colossus, it had taken a couple of years and an election and public and cadre support to become the undisputed leader (in the late 1980s). EPS is a man of modest origins - a jaggery vendor who has risen up the ranks to the spot he is now. Actually, it's amazing that he kept his job as the Chief Minister for four years and two months.

At a public rally in Madurai R. ASHOK

**In the previous round, intra-party rivalry between O. Panneerselvam and EPS was seen as a clash of two dominant OBC communities forming support bases of the party. But with the entry of Mr. Sengottaiyan to the rebel ranks and who belongs to the community to which EPS hails from, does this suggest another round of intra-party intrigue or is this also a consequence of external meddling?**

**P.S.R.:** In the absence of an all-embracing leadership, the present leaders command only caste loyalties. So, whenever a crisis beckons, naturally their caste-based support base comes to their rescue. So, with Mr. EPS in a commanding position, he is currently supported by Kongu Vellalars. And the Mukkulathors in the southern districts perceive that OPS (O. Panneerselvam) and others, besides their lieutenants who are in the AIADMK, were throughout, were ill-treated by the dominant Palaniswami group. Therefore, a kind of divisional loyalty has taken over the AIADMK.

As regards Mr. Sengottaiyan's initiative, I do not think this will change the field or the contest much. The BJP's position, I think, is perhaps that they know pretty well that the AIADMK is disintegrating. So, they want to cash in on the anti-DMK votes, which so far have been garnered by the AIADMK.

**R.K.:** There is undoubtedly some external meddling. The BJP has no business whatsoever to meet with Mr. Sengottaiyan, who has been stirring the pot, even for the right reasons. As regards the AIADMK's community divide, I think it is more of a media projection. Because if you look at EPS's team; his deputy in the assembly is R.B. Udayakumar, who belongs to the Mukkulathor community. The party treasurer is Dindigul C. Sreenivasan, who is also from the same community. EPS has surrounded himself with a number of Mukkulathor leaders. The only difficulty is, there are only two Mukkulathor leaders who seem to enjoy a special status in the post-Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar era – Ms. Sasikala and OPS. Now they are out in the cold, and the community had looked up to them.

> In Tamil Nadu, voters do not bind themselves to any particular organisation forever and so a party exploiting the support base of another is impracticable. Parties gain strength only when a new generation of voters or a new cohort supports them
> **PANRUTI S. RAMACHANDRAN**

**What does the BJP stand to gain this time by intervening in the internal affairs of the AIADMK, given the fact that its previous attempt of uniting the factions of EPS and OPS did not give a durable solution?**

**P.S.R.:** It is a futile attempt by the BJP. The party's former State president, K. Annamalai, had a strategy here in Tamil Nadu, knowing pretty well that the AIADMK supporters may not fully support BJP in future. He chalked out his own strategy to build an alternative to both the DMK and AIADMK. And it was a long-term one similar to what the party did in Odisha. There, the BJP worked to remove the Biju Janata Dal from power over a long period. And the plan did work, even if it took a long time. But, perhaps the Delhi leadership of the BJP feels that the absence of any seats for the party in Tamil Nadu is a disadvantage for the party at the Centre. This is why they removed Mr. Annamalai from his position to pacify EPS. The compromise now is to use a tactic of pacification in order to corner the voter base of the AIADMK. But this attempt will be a failure, in my opinion

**R.K.** I think the BJP is playing this game extremely incorrectly and in a short-sighted fashion. Firstly, the initial attempt at rapprochement between the EPS and the OPS factions was to keep Ms. Sasikala out of the game. The idea was to install a pliant government with not-so-tainted leaders at the helm. It was a BJP government by proxy, according to its detractors, especially the DMK.

Today's meddling is related to the Assembly polls in 2026 where the BJP seeks a united AIADMK to take the battle to the ruling DMK. The BJP also has a longer-term vision which is to cannibalise the AIADMK and its support base at some point in the future, once the current regime in Tamil Nadu is out of power.

**Do you see any substance in the charge against BJP that as the national party, as it did elsewhere, is out to weaken its ally, the AIADMK too?**

**P.S.R.:** Yes, that's correct. Both national parties, the Congress and the BJP, have tried to form their own governments in Tamil Nadu. In 1989, the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi made several visits to Tamil Nadu during the elections and yet the Congress could not make it to the top. The BJP is trying the same thing now. This wouldn't work as there is little purchase for national parties, even if they are ruling in Delhi, here in Tamil Nadu. Unfortunately, despite this, there has been a wrong perception among the BJP that it can rule Tamil Nadu by controlling it from Delhi.

**R.K.:** The BJP seems to be asking EPS for its pound of flesh for having kept him in power for four years and two months. EPS on the other hand should be thinking why the BJP is meeting up with an AIADMK dissident openly; would this have happened under Jayalalithaa's or MGR's rule? I do not think that the BJP is a well-wisher of the AIADMK. They are quite parasitic in their approach and the AIADMK has become a willing host.

**Would people be willing to give lasting support to a party that is perceived to be growing or to have grown at the cost of another?**

**P.S.R.:** In Tamil Nadu, voters do not bind themselves to any particular organisation forever and so a party exploiting the support base of another is impracticable. Parties gain strength only when a new generation of voters or a new cohort supports them. The DMK was founded by C.N. Annadurai and then made popular by M. Karunanidhi, but its base belonged to a particular generation. When MGR was removed by the DMK, he didn't carry support away from the DMK as much as he got the support of the next generation. This tells you that one party cannot grow at the expense of another by taking over the latter's base alone.

**R.K.:** This is a crystal ball question. People's memory is short and so they could be condoning parties who could earn their support. Public support is the only yardstick by which a party can be judged and the BJP's chances will depend upon opinion about how they have governed in other States as well.

As for the AIADMK, it does not, unfortunately, have a leader of the stature of Jayalalithaa after her death. EPS seems to think that he has replaced her, but that is folly. His predecessors were colossuses. He is just a man who reached his position through serendipity.

NOTEBOOK

# Covering a riot, moving between empathy and objectivity

Reporting on a developing story means taking stock of grief, loss, anger and also the larger picture

**Moyurie Som**

Bengal – undivided or current – is not alien to communal violence. I had read about communal strife in history books, and in the news while growing up. But the first time that I saw it with my own eyes was this year.

In April, a mob had torched houses and shops in the Samsherganj police station area in West Bengal's Murshidabad after a protest against the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 turned violent. A father and his son lost their lives just outside their home, and a 21-year-old man died of injuries sustained in police firing.

I spent close to a week in the area and reporting on this developing story meant taking stock of grief, loss and anger. But there was also the larger picture – the law and order situation, fiscal aftershocks, and the regional history and politics.

On the first day, I found myself in the middle of re-emergent violence. One community had pelted stones at the houses of the other. I was determined to stay put, but found a group of villagers confronting our vehicle and threatening us if I did not leave. We eventually did. However, the most heart-wrenching part of my stay was to meet grief-stricken families and ask them to recount the details of one of the darkest days of their lives.

Of the two families in mourning, only one allowed me to visit them. Just before I stepped into the first house, I was ready with pointed questions for the bereaved women of the house to ensure that my reportage had no gaps. But all this changed when I got in. My questions about the merciless killing of their closest kin disappeared in the tense and grief-stricken air. The family looked tired – dealing with the mourning and talking to countless reporters who had the same cruel task. I was cognisant of how important it was for reporters to dig into the story. But at that moment I struggled to verbalise what I wanted without troubling them further. After a few moments of silence, I asked how they were coping. In the course of the conversation and grieving, the horrifying memories revisited them. At the house of the 21-year-old man, I was asked to leave. The family made it very clear that they were in no mood to entertain questions, which they had almost been ambushed into doing over the last few days. But they were still kind enough to offer me and our photographer a glass of water, with a plate of biscuits. The only condition was a promise not to ask questions. We respected this.

At Betbona village, I saw charred currency notes – someone's precious life savings. Houses built with dreams, labour, and the practised frugality of several generations were now ash. I saw families weep after their cattle were stolen or killed in the violence. To villagers, especially those who have livestock, cattle are like their children. I met villagers who lost everything but made sure to take their beloved goats with them when they fled.

The scores of survivors recounted their horror and counted their losses, adding that they would never be able to recover. They thought of reporters as problem-solvers, believing that if we could somehow detail their predicament well, they would get relief. A mother in Betbona urged me to ensure that her teenage daughter could continue her education elsewhere.

I found myself battling with a tough question: where does one draw the line in being humane and empathetic, and maintaining the stoic objectivity that is required of a reporter on duty? Which of these should take precedence in interactions with survivors? I have come to believe that there is no singular answer.

West Bengal has seen some of the worst examples of communal strife, but also, exemplary instances of communal harmony. In Tinpakuria gram panchayat, teachers from two communities continued to teach despite the tensions. Friendship and duty triumphed. The school principal, a Muslim, recounted to me how a former principal, a Hindu, passed away from an illness days after the violence had unfolded. Teachers from both communities helped his family with the last rites, he recalled.

*moyurie.som@thehindu.co.in*

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

## The result of rumbling rage

A torched vehicle at Patan Durbar Square in Nepal, following deadly anti-corruption protests on Monday that were triggered by a social media ban. The ban was later lifted. REUTERS

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

**FIFTY YEARS AGO** SEPTEMBER 12, 1975

## Fresh U.S. Capital

MADRAS, September 11.

The Union Finance Minister, Mr. C. Subramanian, said here to-day that American private equity capital would be allowed in "selected areas" of the core sector, but "it is not going to be a rush of foreign capital".

He told newsmen that the Government had identified the areas in which private U.S. capital investment would be permitted. These were export-oriented industries and areas where specialised technologies and continuous research and development were required. Mr. Subramaniam did not see any difficulty in controlling multinational participation in the selected areas to help in the country's economic development. He pointed out that multi-national organisations already functioning in the country had been largely Indianised and there were very few foreign personnel in them. "We have been able to control them in a much better way," he added. Describing his recent foreign tour as "a fairly successful one", Mr. Subramaniam made particular reference to his meetings with the officials of the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund, besides those with members of the IMF Development Committee and U.S. business groups.

He said the Government had at present no intention of selling any gold and added that in no other country was gold put to private use as in India.

**A HUNDRED YEARS AGO** SEPTEMBER 12, 1925

## League's Health Committee

Work in Eastern Countries
Sir A. Chatterjee's Appeal
(Reuter's Agency.)

GENEVA, Sep. 11.

At the Committee discussing the activities of the health organisation of the League, Mr. Samuel (Britain) criticised the scope of the work undertaken and warned the League not to allow it to outgrow its budgetary resources.

Sir Atul Chatterjee (India) welcomed what the League was doing in the Eastern countries, especially the establishment of a Health Information Office at Singapore, though he thought that more attention might be paid to the East, especially in view of the large contributions from that quarter to the cost of the League.

## From Page One

# Nepal President urges restraint amid crisis

On Wednesday, former Chief Justice Sushila Karki emerged as frontrunner in online voting conducted by the protesters. Kathmandu Mayor Balendra Shah, widely seen as Gen Z's first choice, stepped aside and extended his support to Ms. Karki, 73, the first female Chief Justice of Nepal. But not all campaigners agreed. Harka Sampang, the Mayor of Dharan – roughly 340 km east of Kathmandu – jumped into the fray, positioning himself as an alternative interim leader.

On Wednesday, pro-monarchy, pro-Hindu activist Durga Prasai met with Army chief General Ashok Sigdel. Mr. Prasai is a controversial figure and was charged with inciting violence during the March 28 pro-monarchy protests.

The Army has also been in contact with the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), a new political force that rose to prominence in the last election riding an anti-establishment wave. RSP chief Rabi Lamichhane is also a divisive figure in Nepal – while he has a massive following, he has been charged with embezzling cooperative funds. He was "released" from jail on Tuesday amid growing unrest. Gen Z leaders say they are not against the Constitution but want Parliament dissolved, a demand that echoes what Mr. Shah has been advocating.

**Dialogue sought**

Meanwhile, Nepal's major political parties on Thursday called for resolving the crisis through dialogue and constitutional means.

The Nepali Congress, Mr. Oli's Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist), and CPN (Maoist Centre) issued separate statements, urging that the current political deadlock be resolved within the framework of the Constitution. All three parties said Parliament must not be dissolved and that the process of government formation should shift from the Army headquarters to the President's office.

Prohibitory orders and a curfew remain in place in Kathmandu and several other districts of Nepal. The Supreme Court of Nepal has said it will begin accepting and hearing *habeas corpus* petitions starting Sunday.

*(Sanjeev Satgainya is a journalist based in Kathmandu)*

# 'Won't sit idle if a wing of democracy fails duties'

The bone of contention which led to the Presidential Reference is an April 8 judgment of the Supreme Court which imposed a three-month deadline on Governors and the President to deal with Bills placed before them for assent or consideration, respectively. The court had, in the judgment, held that whims and fancies of Governors cannot hold up governance by endlessly sitting on important legislation passed by State legislatures for the welfare of their people.

Representing the Union government, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said the court's attempt to compel a "one-size-fits-all" solution by "imposing" a uniform time frame for all Bills would prove "self-destructive".

**'Context-based issues'**

"Every Bill has its own context-based issues. Some may require the Governor to have further deliberations and consultations. There are times when a State, while knowing that a Bill may eventually harm the State, is forced to bow to public pressure to pass it. In such cases, the State may tell the Governor to hold the Bills. Thus, imposing straitjacket time limits may become self-destructive. Each case turns on its own peculiar facts," the Solicitor General argued. Mr. Mehta said the top court cannot issue a *mandamus* to Governors to assent to Bills. Gubernatorial assent was part of legislative process. Courts cannot interfere in law-making.

"Yes, we cannot ask a Governor to take a decision in a particular manner, but the court can very well ask the Governor to take a decision. A mandamus can be issued to the Governor to decide," Justice Kant replied pithily.

Mr. Mehta challenged the narrative that Governors were consistently delaying Bills. He said a majority of Bills, in the last 50 years, were given assent by Governors in a month's time.

"Even in the case of Tamil Nadu, except for 10 disputed Bills, assent was usually given in a month. The Governor does not sit over Bills endlessly," Mr. Mehta submitted.

Chief Justice Gavai said the Constitution's framers had envisaged an atmosphere of mutual accord while envisaging the role of the Governors in States. "While the Constitution framers were considering the position of the Governors, the expectation was it would be an existence in harmony. That while appointing Governors, the provincial governments (States now) would be taken on board..." the Chief Justice remarked.

Mr. Mehta reacted that State-Governor relationships had seen decades of harmony before the Delhi government, during the Aam Aadmi Party regime, started filing writ petitions under Article 32 of the Constitution against the Lieutenant-Governor.

Attorney-General R. Venkataramani said the Governor should be given the discretion to either assent or withhold a Bill after testing its constitutionality.

"There is nothing wrong in a Governor deciding to withhold assent to a Bill and sending back a message to the State Assembly about his decision. The question here is whether a Governor can withhold endlessly without sending any message," Chief Justice Gavai observed. The Presidential Reference was reserved for judgment.

# Top Maoist among 10 killed in Chhattisgarh encounter

Manoj, alias Modem Balakrishna, carried ₹1-crore bounty; operation carried out by State Police and CRPF's elite CoBRA unit; 6 central committee members gunned down since start of the year

**Shubhomoy Sikdar**
**Devesh K. Pandey**
RAIPUR

Ten Maoists, including Manoj, alias Modem Balakrishna, a central committee member of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist), were killed by security forces during an encounter in Gariaband district of Chhattisgarh on Thursday.

Manoj carried a bounty of ₹1 crore, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said in a post on X, while terming the latest operation a major success.

Confirming Manoj's death, Gariaband Superintendent of Police Nikhil Rakhecha said an anti-Maoist operation was launched. Till 7.20 p.m. on Thursday, 10 bodies were recovered and search operations were under way.

The police said that security personnel from the Special Task Force (STF, a unit of the State police), E-30 (a unit of the Gariaband Police) and CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action, an elite unit of the Central Reserve Police Force) were involved in the operation.

**Lethal hit:** Ten bodies were recovered and search operations were under way in Gariaband district of Chhattisgarh. FILE PHOTO

While Mr. Rakhecha did not divulge further details on Manoj, information received earlier this year suggested he had joined the Maoist movement in 1983 and was around 65 years old when he was gunned down on Thursday. He went by other aliases such as Balanna, Ramachander and Bhaskar and was a central committee member as well as the in-charge of the CPI (Maoist)'s western bureau of the Odisha State Committee (OSC).

**Arrested twice**

Security sources further said that Manoj joined the Maoist movement after discontinuing an Intermediate course in Hyderabad and went to the Bhadrachalam forests in 1983. He was arrested at least twice in undivided Andhra Pradesh in the late 1980s.

"In 1987, the Mahaboobnagar Police raided his room and arrested him. He was housed in Musheerabam Jail till January 1990, when he was released in exchange for kidnapped Telugu Desam Party MLA Venkateswara Rao. He worked in the Hyderabad city area," the source added.

As an active Maoist in the south Telangana region, he was arrested again in March 1993 in Kurnool district, and lodged in the Chanchalguda Central Jail. He was released on conditional bail on August 18, 1999 and went underground.

The central committee is the highest decision-making body of the CPI (Maoist) and the latest development is another major blow to the banned outfit. Since the start of the year, six central committee members have been killed by the security forces in separate operations in Chhattisgarh (four), Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh (one each).

# United Naga Council suspends its 'trade embargo' in Manipur

**The Hindu Bureau**
GUWAHATI

The United Naga Council (UNC) suspended its indefinite "trade embargo" on Thursday, a day after a plea from the Manipur government.

The UNC, an apex Naga body of Manipur, enforced the "trade embargo" from the midnight of September 8 in protest against the Centre's decision to fence the 1,643-km India-Myanmar border and scrap the Free Movement Regime (FMR), which allows document-free travel for border residents in each other's country up to 10 km from the boundary line dividing the two countries.

H. James Hau, the publicity and information secretary of the UNC, said in a statement that the organisation's emergency presidential council decided to suspend the trade embargo across the Naga-majority areas after receiving a letter from Manipur's Chief Secretary Puneet Kumar Goel on September 10 for the resumption of tripartite talks on the twin issues of border fencing and the FMR.

Hundreds of trucks and other non-passenger commercial vehicles were stranded on roads, especially the arterial National Highway 2, that pass through Naga-majority areas before touching Manipur's Imphal Valley.

## Structures to greet PM pulled down in Manipur

**GUWAHATI**

Miscreants on Thursday pulled down decorative structures erected along the road to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Manipur's Kuki-majority Churachandpur district on September 13. Groups of men, armed with sticks, went on the rampage around 7.45 p.m. at two places near the helipad where the PM is scheduled to land during his first visit to the State since ethnic clashes broke out in 2023. District officials could not be reached for comment.

# SSB detains 63 Nepal prison escapees; some claim to be Indians

**Vijaita Singh**
NEW DELHI

The number of escapees from Nepal prisons who have been apprehended by the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) along the India-Nepal border amid the crisis in the Himalayan country, has risen to 63 from 22 a day earlier. A woman was among the detainees, a senior government official said on Thursday.

The detentions were made along the borders shared by Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal with Nepal. The woman inmate was apprehended at Kishanganj in Bihar and handed over to the police. At least two inmates intercepted along the West Bengal border by the SSB were handed over to Nepal authorities by the West Bengal Police, the official said. Once apprehended, the SSB hands over the suspects to the local police.

The SSB, a Central Armed Police Force (CAPF), guards the 1,751-km border with Nepal and 699-km border with Bhutan. The inmates were apprehended on the basis of a list of prisoners shared by Armed Forces of Nepal (APF) with their counterparts, the SSB. Some of the apprehended inmates were claiming to be Indians, the official said.

"Since they do not have any document, we are ascertaining their identity. They said they were convicted for crimes in Nepal and lodged in jails there," said the official.

Nepal and India share an open border and residents of the neighbouring country are allowed entry without visas and passports based on documents such as driving licence and other government-issued IDs. The SSB has opened help desks to help stranded people on either side.

# Release Indians from Russian Army, stop recruitment: MEA tells Moscow

**Vijaita Singh**
NEW DELHI

A day after *The Hindu* reported that at least 15 Indians are stuck on the battlefield in Ukraine, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday that it had taken up the matter with Russian authorities, in Delhi and Moscow, asking that "this practice be ended and that our nationals be released".

"We have seen reports about Indian nationals having been recruited recently into the Russian Army," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. "The government has on several occasions over the past one year underlined the risks and dangers inherent in this course of action and cautioned Indian citizens accordingly... We once again strongly urge all Indian nationals to stay away from any offers to join the Russian Army as this is a course fraught with danger." Russia and Ukraine have been at war since 2022.

We have seen reports about Indian nationals having been recruited recently into the Russian Army... We strongly urge all Indian nationals to stay away from any offers to join the Russian Army as this is a course fraught with danger
—RANDHIR JAISWAL
MEA spokesperson

**Stuck on the battlefield**

Two Indian nationals told *The Hindu* that they are caught in the battlefield in Ukraine, where they are being forced to serve on the Russian side. The two recruits claimed there were at least 13 more Indians with them.

These are Indians who went to Russia on student or visitor visas, and were then recruited into the Russian Army, despite the Russian Embassy in Delhi stating on August 10, 2024 that it no longer recruits Indians.

The embassy's assurance came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the issue with Russian President Vladimir Putin during his visit to Moscow in July 2024. The MEA had issued several warnings and advisories cautioning Indians not to fall prey to recruiters for the Russian Army.

The recent recruitment seems to have been done after a lull of over a year, during which such hiring was stopped.

On Thursday, Sumit Sharma, who hails from Jammu and Kashmir, said that another Indian who was with them has been sent to the frontline.

**Pushed to the frontlines**

"Out of 15 who arrived here, only four of us are here now. The Russians are saying that we will have to go ahead [to the frontline] and we do not have an option. I request the Indian government to rescue us," said Mr. Sharma, who is presently at Selydove in Ukraine.

Russia claimed Selydove, a key town in the Donetsk region, in November 2024.

*The Hindu* had reported first on February 20, 2024 that Indians who travelled to Russia on tourist visas were initially offered jobs as security helpers but were then forced to fight alongside the Russian military on the Russia-Ukraine border.

# Govt. contemplates raising civil border guards along China border

**Vijaita Singh**
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is contemplating raising the Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG) along the China border, on the lines of the force patrolling the India-Pakistan border, officials told *The Hindu*.

The BWHGs drawn from the civilian population which lives in the border areas act as an ancillary to border guarding forces and the Indian Army during emergencies. There are seven States authorised to have BWHGs – Meghalaya, Tripura, Assam, West Bengal, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

They are now operational only in Rajasthan and their utility was realised during the recent Operation Sindoor when their services were required to collect or disseminate information among the border population.

**Ancillary support:** Indian Army soldiers stand guard on a road near Zoji La connecting Srinagar to Ladakh, bordering China. FILE PHOTO

**Border Wing Home Guards are now operational in Rajasthan only**

As many as 2,279 BWHGs are presently active in Rajasthan. "It is a voluntary force and Rajasthan is the only State which has BWHGs in the present times. They perform the responsibilities of a constable and are usually enlisted for three or four years; 25% cost of training and financial support is borne by the Government of India. The usual pay compares to ₹800-900 per day equivalent to that of a constable's salary," said the official. The Ministry held a meeting recently on raising the strength of BWHGs for its active engagement with border guarding forces, including the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), which is deployed along the 3,488-km border with China.

Since 2020, more than 50,000 Army and ITBP personnel have been deployed in eastern Ladakh and the raising of BWHGs will help in augmenting the presence and collection of intelligence, a senior government official said.

Twenty Indian personnel, including a Colonel, were killed in violent clashes with Chinese troops on June 20, 2020 along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, in what is possibly the worst incident between the two countries in decades.

After several rounds of talks, there are 26 patrolling points, out of 65 PPs in eastern Ladakh that are not being patrolled by Indian troops since April-May 2020. The areas being patrolled earlier have been turned into "buffer zones" with the Chinese also not sending troops. PPs are often used to assert territorial claims along the undefined border.

# 'Ties with India one of the top U.S. has today'

**Press Trust of India**
NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

India is one of the top relationships the U.S. has in the world today, and Washington is in a period of "extraordinary transition" in that relationship with New Delhi, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Thursday.

Introducing U.S. Ambassador-designate to India Sergio Gor at his confirmation hearing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Rubio said he has known Mr. Gor for a very long time and "who is the nominee to India, which is, I would say, one of the top relationships the U.S. has in the world today, in terms of the future, what the world is going to look like.

When confirmed, 38-year-old Mr. Gor will be the youngest American ambassador to India.

"...We've got some really important issues coming up that we need to work with them on," Mr. Rubio further said in the hearing.

**APPEAL**

Baby of **Sivaranjini,** Hospital No.AL80814, 7 months daughter of Mr.G. Arunkumar admitted Christian Medical College is diagnosed to have Congenital Heart Disease and Large Ventricular Septal defect. She has been advised to undergo Ventricular Septal defect closure at the earliest. The Cost of operation would be about Rs.4,30,000/-

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/ D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Baby of Sivaranjini, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 2000913487. State Bank of India, R.A.Puram, and IFSC Code: SBIN0001855, You can Donate through Google pay No.9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksbi. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

Save Poor Lives Registered Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground floor, Old No.76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848**, Mobile: **9884607377** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com.** Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

# The anxious, 'absent' migrant voters of Gopalganj

Gopalganj district has the highest number of names deleted from the draft electoral list, with voters declared 'absent' or 'permanently shifted', though many migrants still want to register as electors in their home towns; the Election Commission's rule that only those 'ordinarily resident' in a particular place will be allowed to vote there may rob many temporary migrants of their right to vote

**Sreeparna Chakrabarty**
GOPALGANJ

Heera Manjhi is a worried man. He cannot find his name on the draft electoral rolls of Bihar which was published on August 1.

Mr. Manjhi recently returned to his home in Gopalganj district in Bihar from Faridabad on the outskirts of the national capital, where he had done odd jobs. As he was not able to furnish a permanent residency certificate along with his enumeration form within the deadline for the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls, his name was left out of the draft list, he says.

Though he furnished the voter ID card which showed he had registered as a voter in 2004, Mr. Manjhi, who is more than 50 years old, said that he had not voted for the last five years as he was mostly away at work.

Under the SIR rules of June 24, voters must furnish one of 11 documents, such as a permanent residency certificate, to prove their identity and address if their names were not included on the 2003 voter list, when the last SIR took place. On September 9, however, the Election Commission directed the Bihar Chief Electoral Officer to add Aadhaar as the 12th indicative document, following a Supreme Court order the previous day.

Many booth-level officers (BLOs) told *The Hindu* that initially, the EC's directives had been to accept enumeration forms only with the requisite documents. Later, they were told to accept the forms first and collect documents afterwards.

**Temporary migration**

Mr Manjhi, a resident of Chaturbagaha village, may still make it to the final list after submitting a claims form, but the same cannot be said about hundreds of other excluded voters who migrate temporarily to cities such as Delhi, Hyderabad, and Surat, and even West Asian countries to find a living.

Harinder Mahato, who hails from Mangolpuri village in the Baikunthpur Assembly constituency, has been working in Surat in Gujarat as a foreman.

Luckily, he returned home two months ago for a family function, just in time to fill the enumeration forms given by the BLO, thus preventing his name from being marked as "absent" or "permanently shifted", the most common reasons given on the deleted lists pasted outside every booth in the district.

Similarly, Dhruv Mahato of Vishunpur village, whose entire family lives and works in Hyderabad, rushed back to Bihar just in time to submit his form. Mr. Mahato even speaks Hindi with a Hyderabadi accent, but insists that no member of his family has been registered as a voter in Hyderabad.

The Gopalganj district has the highest number of names deleted from the draft electoral list.

A visit to the various Assembly constituencies in the district shows that the EC's list of deleted voters had only a few anomalies in the case of electors who live in the area.

However, the adherence to the rule that only those "ordinarily resident" in a particular place are allowed to vote there may rob many temporary migrants of their right to vote, as it was not clear whether they are enrolled as voters in their current places of residence.

The EC has already announced a country-wide SIR, with January 1, 2026 as the likely cut-off date. This could mean that migrants whose names were deleted in their native places will get added as voters in their current places of residence and work.

In the villages of Gopalganj, the problem gets acute when one moves into the "Dalit Tolas", areas where the Scheduled Caste persons reside.

High levels of illiteracy, especially among women, ensures that villagers look towards the BLOs, who are almost always the local "master" or schoolteacher, for hand-holding while filling any form or submitting a required document.

When this reporter visited the Chaturbagaha village, worry was writ large on the faces of a group of Dalit women who had been told by the BLO to submit the requisite documents quickly lest their names be struck off the list.

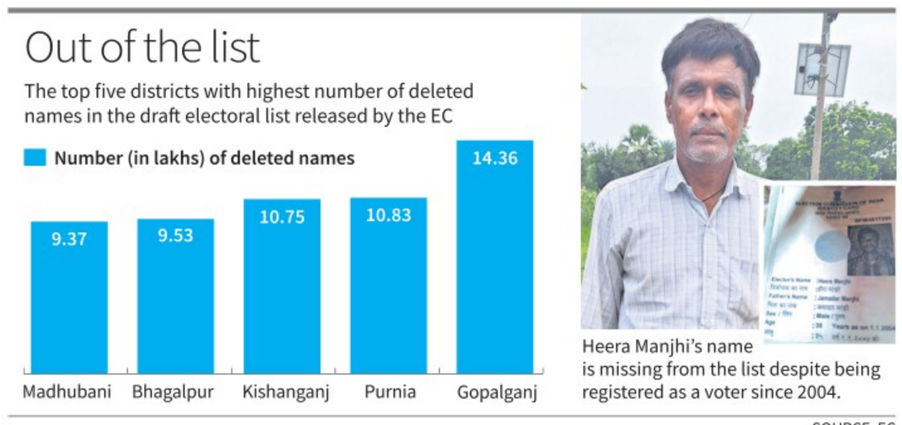
**Booth-level confusion**

In one of its directives, the Supreme Court had asked the BLOs as well as the 1.6 lakh booth-level agents appointed by political parties to assist and clear the doubts of voters.

Deepak Chowdhary, the BLO of the Ramratan Shahi Ucchatar Madhmik Vidhaylaya Vishunpur booth, said that voters unable to get permanent residency certificates or any of the other 11 documents had been asked to get an identity and residence certificate from the village headman. Regarding Aadhaar, he said that since all forms had these accompanying documents, no need had arisen for submission with Aadhaar. What has added to the confusion is the reorganisation of polling stations, with a new limit of 1,200 voters per booth. This means that while one set of BLOs handed out the enumeration forms, another set seems to have collected them and the requisite documents.

Apart from migrant voters, women are the next most affected group. Almost all women who have been listed as "not present" or "migrated" have in fact married and moved to their matrimonial homes in villages just five to 10 km away, according to their neighbours and kinsmen. Again, it was not clear if these women have been added to the voter lists in their new homes.

Aarti Devi of Mangolpuri village said that the names of two of her daughters were struck off the list after the door-to-door survey by the BLO, but they are yet to register in their new homes as their in-laws have not helped them.





Heera Manjhi's name is missing from the list despite being registered as a voter since 2004.

# Script for 'vote theft' campaign came from abroad, alleges BJP

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Thursday alleged that the "script and dialogue" for the "vote theft" campaign of the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, came from abroad and was aimed at creating a "trust deficit" in India's democracy.

BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla said there was "undeniable" technical proof that a recent presentation by Mr. Gandhi to allege vote theft had been created abroad. He accused Mr. Gandhi of peddling a foreign agenda of interfering with "Bharat's democracy".

Mr. Poonawalla said that at a time when floods had ravaged Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, Mr. Gandhi preferred travelling overseas rather than visiting the affected States.

Shehzad Poonawalla

**'Violated protocol'**

Quoting media reports, he said the Congress leader violated security protocol whenever he went overseas, and said the Central Reserve Police Force and security agencies had raised concerns about it.

The BJP leader said that Mr. Gandhi held the responsible post of Leader of the Opposition, and accused him of not trusting his own security agencies and not taking security personnel along to keep his meetings abroad a "secret".

The Congress dismissed the BJP's allegations as "ridiculous"."It comes just as Shri Rahul Gandhi is leading the charge against the BJP's Vote *Chori* carried out with the Election Commission's complicity. Is this a veiled attempt to intimidate the Leader of Opposition, who has already announced another imminent disclosure?" Congress leader Pawan Khera posted on social media platform X.

# BJP set to organise events, promote local goods to mark Modi's birthday

**Devesh K. Pandey**
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party will organise various events across the country from September 17, the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to October 2, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. They include a public awareness campaign to promote local goods as part of the initiatives to achieve the goal of a developed India.

At a press conference, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and BJP general secretary Sunil Bansal said the programme would focus on service, cleanliness, self-reliance, and nation-building.

**Big plans:** BJP general secretary Sunil Bansal and Union Minister Bhupender Yadav on Thursday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

**Campaigns, drives**

Activities such as blood donation camps, health check-up camps, cleanliness drives, environmental protection campaigns, exhibitions, dialogue programmes, distribution of assistive devices to persons with disabilities, a Modi Vikas Marathon, sports festivals, and drawing competitions would be held, the BJP leaders said.

On September 25, the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Viksit Bharat" campaign would be launched to promote local products and it would continue till December 25, the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

"Whether as Prime Minister or during his tenure as Chief Minister, Mr. Modi has consistently reached out to people during every disaster, crisis, and pandemic with a spirit of service, inspiring citizens. His clear vision has been that politics should not be limited to criticism and allegations, but should serve as a means to alleviate the sufferings of the common people and bring positive changes to their lives," Mr. Yadav said.

**Hails PM's leadership**

The BJP leader said under Mr. Modi's leadership, welfare schemes for the poor had reached the grassroots level.

"The use of technology in governance has established transparency, and alongside a spirit of service, the entire country has embraced the grand mantra of cleanliness. ...access to clean water is being ensured even in remote rural areas, and every citizen is being provided with dignified sanitation facilities. This is the result of the sensitivity and vision of the respected Prime Minister," he said.

Mr. Bansal said the party, the Union government, and all State governments would jointly conduct a variety of activities.

He said distinguished members of society would be felicitated and 771 dialogue events would be held across all States.

The Modi Vikas Marathon would be organised in more than 75 major cities on September 21, connecting the youth with the "national resolutions such as Viksit Bharat, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, and Drug-Free India". "Registration for the sports festival began on August 29, and its formal inauguration under the programme will be on September 21. The campaign will continue across the country until January. Lok Sabha members will organise various sports competitions in their respective constituencies, while Rajya Sabha members will do so in the Lok Sabha constituencies allocated to them," the senior BJP leader said.

## INBRIEF

### C.P. Radhakrishnan to take oath as Vice-President today

C.P. Radhakrishnan will take the oath of office as Vice-President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday. President Droupadi Murmu will administer the oath to him. The Centre has invited the Leaders of the Opposition of both the Houses of Parliament. As per sources, former Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar will attend the event. Mr. Radhakrishnan, according to sources, has called a meeting of all floor leaders of the Rajya Sabha. Information about the meeting was relayed by the Centre late on Thursday.

### Former RJD leader shot dead by masked assailants in Patna

Months ahead of the Assembly election in Bihar, a former RJD leader and property dealer, Rajkumar Rai, was gunned down in Patna on Wednesday night. Unidentified criminals, who came on motorbikes, fired six bullets at Mr. Rai who died of injuries at Patna Medical College and Hospital. The police are investigating the case and have collected CCTV footage in which the assailants, with faces masked, can be seen shooting at Mr. Rai. Patna (East) Superintendent of Police Parichay Kumar said a probe was on. Police sources said three suspects have been taken into custody for questioning.

# Congress calls Modi's article on RSS chief a 'desperate bid to curry favour'

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's article on Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on the latter's 75th birthday was a "desperate bid" to curry favour with the Sangh leadership.

On the occasion of Mr Bhagwat's birthday, the Prime Minister had authored a piece in which he praised the RSS chief and said his tenure since 2009 would be considered the "most transformative period in its 100-year journey".

In a post on the social media platform X, Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh said, "The Prime Minister, in his desperate bid to curry favour with the RSS leadership, has written an over-the-top tribute to Mohan Bhagwat on his 75th birthday today. The PM has recalled that it was on September 11, 1893, that Swami Vivekananda gave his immortal speech in Chicago. The Prime Minister has also recalled that the Al Qaeda terrorist attacks in the U.S. took place on Sept 11, 2001," Mr. Ramesh said.

> A long essay in praise of Bhagwat*ji* is nothing but PM's insurance policy — a message to Nagpur: 'Don't apply 75 [retirement rule] to me'
>
> **MANICKAM TAGORE**
> Congress leader

"But not surprisingly, the Prime Minister has not mentioned that Mahatma Gandhi first gave the call for satyagraha on Sept 11, 1906, in Johannesburg. That was when the world first heard of this revolutionary idea. Of course it is too much to expect the Prime Minister to remember the origin of satyagraha since the very word satya [truth] is alien to him. The PM, who himself claimed to be non-biological, makes his pravachans [sermons] appear as if they are God-se," the Congress leader added.

The Congress's whip in the Lok Sabha Manickam Tagore also took a dig at the Prime Minister. "Advani*ji* at 75: 'Rule is rule, step aside.' Murali Manohar Joshi*ji* at 75: 'Rule is rule, retire gracefully.' Mohan Bhagwat*ji* at 75: Modi writes poetry on 'Wisdom &Trust.' So the famous 75-year retirement rule is not a principle, just a tool," the Congress leader said on X.

"Apply it to Advani*ji* & Joshi*ji*. Bend it for Bhagwat*ji*. Ignore it for Modi himself. This is not respect, this is sycophancy. A long essay in praise of Bhagwat*ji* is nothing but Modi's insurance policy – a message to Nagpur: 'Don't apply 75 to me in 2025'," the Congress Whip said, added.

# Police officials must shed all personal biases when they don uniform, says SC

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court, in a judgment on Thursday, warned against communal colours seeping into the khakhi of the police.

The court issued an unprecedented order that a special investigation team (SIT), comprising an equal number of Muslim and Hindu officers, be formed by the Maharashtra government to investigate allegations of murder and assault made by a 17-year-old Muslim boy during the Akola communal riots of 2023.

"When members of the police force don their uniforms, they are required to shed their personal predilections and biases, be they religious, racial, casteist or otherwise. They must be true to the call of duty attached to their office and their uniform with absolute and total integrity. Unfortunately, in the case on hand, this did not happen," Justice Sanjay Kumar observed in the ruling, issued by a Bench which also included Justice Satish Chandra Sharma.

SC directs action against police who ignored a Muslim assault victim in 2023 Akola riots case.

The case concerned the complaints made by a teenager, Mohammad Afzal Mohammad Sharif, who allegedly witnessed four men – including one who was later identified to have political connections – fatally attacking a man in an autorickshaw during the riots. The men assaulted the boy, leaving him with head injuries.

Afzal and his father then went to the police station to file a complaint about the murder he witnessed and the assault on himself, but the police took no notice. A subsequent appeal to the Superintendent of Police of Akola came to no avail.

The murder victim was identified as Vilas Mahadevrao Gaikwad. Afzal had stated that Gaikwad was killed under the mistaken impression that he was a Muslim. "It was for the police to investigate the truth or otherwise of the specific allegations made by the appellant, a 17-year-old boy, who asserted that he was an eyewitness to the murder of Vilas Mahadevrao Gaikwad and was himself assaulted by the very same assailants... If, in fact, the deceased was really murdered under the impression that he belonged to Muslim community and the assailants were not of that community, that was a fact that had to be ascertained after thorough and proper investigation," Justice Kumar said.

The State Home Secretary was directed to initiate appropriate disciplinary action against erring police officials for their "patent dereliction of duties".

## INBRIEF

### SC refuses urgent listing of plea against India-Pak. match

The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to urgently hear a petition that sought cancellation of the India-Pakistan cricket match scheduled for September 14 as part of the Asia Cup T20 tournament. The petition, filed by four law students, contended that staging the match in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor was "against national interest" and demeaned the sacrifices of armed forces and civilians who lost their lives. When the matter was mentioned for urgent listing, a Bench of Justices J.K. Maheshwari and Vijay Bishnoi declined to entertain the plea. "What is the urgency? It's a match, let it be," Justice Maheshwari told counsel.

### Delhi HC protects Aishwarya Rai's rights against AI misuse

The Delhi High Court has issued directions against the unauthorised commercial and online exploitation of actor Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's identity, observing that courts "cannot turn a blind eye" to unauthorised exploitation of her personality rights. In an order passed on September 9, Justice Tejas Karia said the unauthorised use of a celebrity's likeness without consent not only causes commercial harm but also undermines their right to privacy and dignity. The order came on a plea by Ms. Rai Bachchan, highlighting that several websites were circulating AI-generated sexually explicit visuals by superimposing her face, alongside selling merchandise without her permission.

# India and Mauritius not just partners but a family: Modi

Free and secure Indian Ocean is our shared priority, he says, speaking alongside Mauritius PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam; MoUs inked for cooperation in technology, development projects

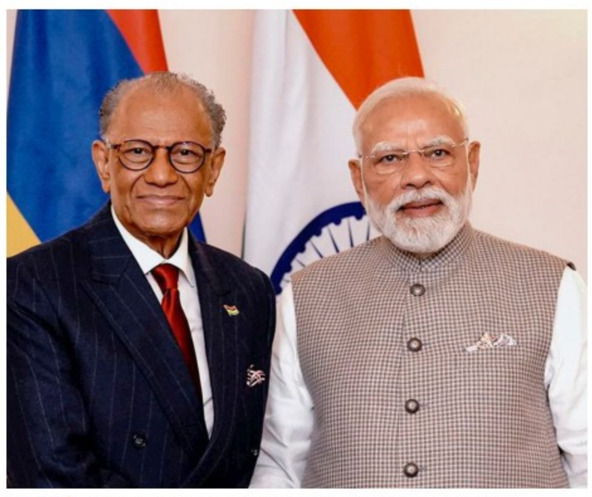
**Mayank Kumar**
LUCKNOW

India and Mauritius are not just partners but a family, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in Varanasi on Thursday, at the signing of agreements to deepen ties between the two countries.

Following bilateral discussions with his counterpart from Mauritius, Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Mr. Modi said that a stable, prosperous, free, open and secure Indian Ocean was a joint priority of both countries.

"Centuries ago, our culture and traditions travelled from India to Mauritius, and became a part of everyday life there. Just like the eternal flow of Maa Ganga in Kashi, the continuous stream of Indian culture has enriched Mauritius. And today, when we are welcoming friends from Mauritius in Kashi, it is not just a formality but a spiritual union. That is why I proudly say that India and Mauritius are not just partners but a family," said Mr. Modi.

The Prime Minister said Mauritius is an integral part of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy.



**Deep ties:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mauritius PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam in Varanasi on Thursday. PTI

At a press conference, Mr. Modi said, "Today, we have announced a special economic package designed to support Mauritius's needs and priorities. This will strengthen infrastructure, create new employment opportunities, and further enhance healthcare facilities. The first Jan Aushadhi Kendra outside India has now been established in Mauritius."

**AYUSH centre**

India also announced that it would extend cooperation in establishing an AYUSH Centre of Excellence, a 500-bed Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital, as well as a veterinary school and animal hospital in Mauritius. The two countries also signed memorandums of understanding to enhance cooperation in science and technology, oceanographic research, power sector and implementation of Phase 2 of small development projects.

In a proposed hydrography project, the countries will work together on joint surveys, navigation charts, and hydrographic data of the exclusive economic zones of Mauritius.

"Very soon, we will also launch the training modules of Mission Karmayogi [capacity building for government officials] in Mauritius. The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, and the Indian Institute of Plantation Management have entered into agreements with the University of Mauritius. These agreements will elevate our partnership in research, education, and innovation to new heights," added Mr. Modi, lauding the unique "civilisational ties" between the two countries.

Earlier, Mr. Modi landed at Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Varanasi where he was received by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Mr. Modi's convoy was welcomed at six major locations, including Kachahari and Ambedkar Chauraha.

Mr. Ramgoolam, who arrived in Varanasi on Wednesday, witnessed the Ganga Aarti from a cruise in the evening. On Friday morning, he is scheduled to offer prayers at Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham before leaving for Ayodhya.

*(With PTI inputs)*

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla with Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah and Karnataka Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader. SUDHAKARA JAIN

# Standard of debates should improve: Speaker Om Birla

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Thursday expressed concern over the lack of meaningful discussions in the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State legislatures, and said the standard of debates in the House should improve.

Speaking at the inaugural function of a three-day Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), India Region, Mr. Birla, who is also the Chairman of the CPA, said the debates in the State legislatures and Parliament should be of high quality to ensure meaningful discussion of laws.

He expressed concern that the dignity of the debates were getting lowered due to disruptions in the proceedings of the Houses owing to petty political reasons. He urged lawmakers to rise above party lines on issues of national interest and meet the aspirations of people.

The programme, held at the Vidhana Soudha, was attended by Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh, and presiding officers of Legislative Assemblies.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said "a culture of dialogue, commitment to equality, and a willingness to listen, deliberate, and decide together is the true spirit of democracy".

He said the Parliament and State legislatures were laboratories of federal democracy, where diversity was debated, dissent was respected, and unity was forged.

### SC Collegium recommends Chief Justices for three HCs

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, on Thursday recommended names for Chief Justices of the High Courts of Meghalaya, Patna, and Manipur.

The collegium recommended the senior-most Calcutta High Court judge, Justice Soumen Sen, as Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.

Justice P.B. Bajanthri, who is currently the Acting Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, was recommended as its regular Chief Justice.

The Madras High Court's senior-most puisne judge, Justice M. Sundar, was recommended as the Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court.

# Home Minister launches faster immigration clearance at 5 airports

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday launched the Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP), which accelerates the immigration process for preverified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders, at five more airports.

After launching the FTI-TTP at Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli, Kozhikode and Amritsar airports, Mr. Shah said travellers would no longer experience long queues or manual checking and would receive immigration clearance in just 30 seconds without delays.

He said the programme had been launched in alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "speed, scale and scope". The special initiative was first rolled out at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in July 2024, and two months later, extended to Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Cochin and Ahmedabad.

Amit Shah inaugurating the programme at five more airports through video conferencing in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Mr. Shah said the facility would not only enhance the convenience of travellers but also provide an opportunity to introduce them to the changes taking place in the country.

Mr. Shah said with the FTI-TTP, seamless immigration facilities would be available at the designated airports and emphasised that merely providing convenience was not enough, action must be taken to ensure that the maximum number of travellers benefited from it.

"To achieve this, efforts should be made to enable registration at the time of issuing passports and OCI cards," he said, adding that if this could be implemented, travellers did not need to return for fingerprinting or documentation and they could travel using their passports whenever they wished.

"OCI cardholders will benefit the most," he said, adding that the Home Ministry has planned to integrate this programme with the upcoming Navi Mumbai and Jewar airports.

About three lakh travellers have registered on this portal, of which 2.65 lakh have utilised it and efforts should be made to increase this number, he said. The FTI-TTP will eventually be launched at 21 major airports in the country.

# First tri-service all-women circumnavigation sailing expedition flagged off

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Commemorating women power and the vision of a developed India, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday virtually flagged off a historic tri-service all-women circumnavigation sailing expedition – Samudra Pradakshina – from the Gateway of India in Mumbai.

The expedition is the first of its kind in the world.

Addressing the gathering from South Block in New Delhi, Mr. Singh described the initiative, a first of its kind, as a glowing symbol of *nari shakti* (women power), the jointness of the armed forces, self-reliant India (Aatmanirbhar Bharat) and India's global vision.

**Historic journey:** A navy officer shakes hands with members of the 'Samudra Pradakshina', in Mumbai on Thursday. ANI

**The route**

According to the Ministry of Defence, over the next nine months, 10 women officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force will sail onboard the indigenously-built Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) *Triveni*, a 50-foot yacht.

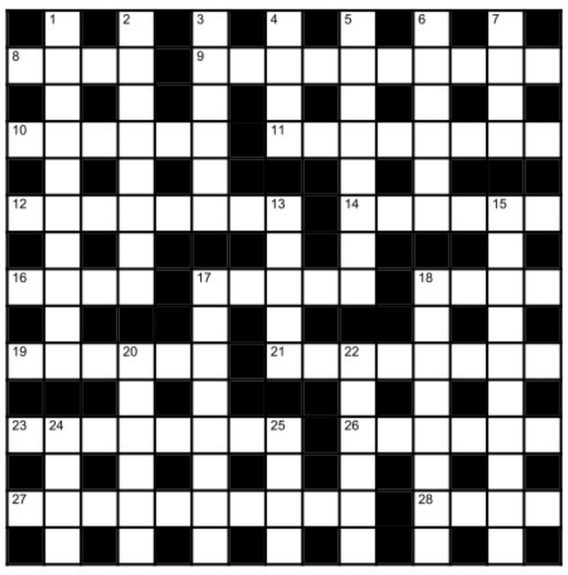
They will follow an easterly route covering nearly 26,000 nautical miles, crossing the Equator twice and rounding the three great Capes – Leeuwin, Horn and Good Hope. They will return to Mumbai in May 2026.

## TH CROSSWORD + 14587

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



**Across**

**8 / 13** What Uri Geller supposedly did? Snoop? (4,5)
**9** Agreement to marry and fight? (10)
**10** Quit right before director leaves plan (6)
**11** US island makes ancient clocks (8)
**12** They are useful when you want to make a drink on the rocks e.g., tonic cocktail with a bit of soda (3,5)
**14** Tree-lined road has a place for holding meeting (6)
**16** Ran special edition (4)
**17** Implements used to make stool (5)
**18** Park in London for Dr. Jekyll's alter ego (4)
**19** Cold drink consumed by police team? (3,3)
**21** Boy in Berlin manufactured small cutting tools (8)
**23** It contains public representative on undulating dune! It's fresh! (8)
**26** Permits Greek insects (6)
**27** French author follows Medusa, for example, to get cheese (10)
**28** Only 7 returned (4)

**Down**

**1** Funnily, I select cop for kind of sight a sniper probably needs (10)
**2** Conceded Matt died horribly (8)
**3** Noel composition about new name for one of The Beatles (6)
**4** Silly sage gets old (4)
**5** Some Africans and Angus danced (8)
**6** Prepare rum pie for person watching cricket match near the crease (6)
**7** Intermediate Elon manufactured (4)
**13** See 8 Across
**15** Contorted nude Romeo on easel, for example. Get it? (10)
**17** Mistakenly insert ad for goods taken in exchange as part payment for goods sold (5-3)
**18** Large buildings housing aged gets old pieces of luggage (8)
**20** Model wrongly urged to walk with slow and heavy steps (6)
**22** Drinks counter stores breakfast food for panhandler (6)
**24** Women dancing without pole gets cat-call (4)
**25** Fifth oracle's god (4)

## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | | 9 | 8 | 3 | | | | |
| | 4 | 2 | | 5 | 6 | | | 7 |
| | | 6 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 5 | 2 | | |
| | 6 | | | 8 | | | 4 | |
| | | 5 | 1 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 3 | | |
| 9 | | | 6 | 4 | | 8 | 2 | |
| | | | | 9 | 1 | 7 | | 5 |

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

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**Solution to previous puzzle**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | C | G | N | P | K | E | | |
| APER | O | D | O | U | R | I | S | LE |
| Q | E | A | D | E | M | A | | |
| TRYOUT | D | R | A | G | O | O | N | S |
| S | E | I | M | N | | | | |
| NAPOLEON | B | R | O | O | K | E | | |
| P | T | G | L | N | | | | |
| SHIELDS | B | E | D | R | O | O | M | |
| I | I | C | I | W | | | | |
| EDISON | A | C | C | I | D | E | N | T |
| E | O | R | L | E | | | | |
| MAGNESIA | A | N | S | W | E | R | | |
| S | T | A | V | I | O | T | | |
| STIR | U | N | A | R | M | U | L | N | A |
| I | Y | R | N | S | T | A | | |

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 4 |
| 2 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
| 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 9 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 1 |
| 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 3 |
| 1 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| 7 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 5 |

## FAITH

### Lord Varadaraja's greatness

Ayodhya, Mathura, Maya, Kasi, Kanchi, Avantika, and Dwaraka are the seven places known as famous divine kshetras. Each of these holds unique significance: for example, Ayodhya is the birthplace of Lord Rama, while Dwaraka is the divine kshetra of Lord Krishna. Similarly, Mathura is the holy place where the child devotee Dhruva undertook penance, and Ambarisha, an ardent devotee of Lord Vishnu, attained liberation. Maya refers to Rishikesh, where the Lord slew the demon Hrusheekeshan. Similarly, Avanthi is a divine place said to wipe out all our sins. Kasi is also regarded as a holy place, with the belief that those who breathe their last here will reach the heavenly abode as Lord Parameswara whispers "Rama Nama" in the ears of those in their final moments.

Sri Anantha Padmanabha swamy stated in a discourse that various celestial beings across different yugas worship Lord Varadaraja of Kanchi. "Ka" refers to Brahma, the God of creation, who performed in Kanchi in the Krutha Yuga, a yaga, and Lord Varadaraja manifested in that yaga. The term "Kanchi" also refers to "Mekala" – an ornament. The place Kanchi, created by Viswakarma, resembles Mekala to Mother Earth.

In the Dwapara Yuga, Bruhaspati, the preceptor of the celestials, incurred a curse and, by worshipping this God, attained liberation. In this Kali Yuga, Adisesha, the reclining bed of Lord Vishnu, worships Lord Varadaraja as "Ananthazhwan".

Acharya Vedanta Desika says that like Sri Rama, who beheaded Ravana in a single stroke, all our sins will be destroyed by Lord Varadaraja.

## INBRIEF

### HC junks ex-Karvy CEO's plea in ₹2,700-crore fraud cause

The Bombay High Court on Thursday dismissed a plea by Rajiv Ranjan Singh, former Chief Executive Officer of Karvy Stock Broking Limited (KSBL), seeking discharge from criminal proceedings in the ₹2,700-crore client securities fraud case investigated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The judge upheld the Special Court's earlier refusal to grant discharge, observing that there was "sufficient prima facie material" to proceed against Mr. Singh under Section 27(1) of the SEBI Act, 1992.

### IREDA raises ₹453 crore through perpetual bonds

The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) said it had raised ₹453 crore at 7.7% per annum through its second issue of perpetual bonds, a step that strengthens its capital base for financing green energy projects. The issue drew total bids worth ₹1,343 crore against the base size of ₹100 crore and a Green Shoe option of ₹400 crore, resulting in oversubscription by 2.69 times.

### India International Tea convention from Sept. 18-20

The United Planers Association of Southern India and the Tea Board India will organise the eighth edition of India International Tea Convention in Kochi from September 18 to 20. A press release from the organisers said the theme this year will be "Innovating the Tea Ecosystem for Tomorrow" and will focus on not just automation and digitisation, but also on advanced technologies and sustainable practices.

# Centre to conduct 2 key surveys on household finances from July 2026

While the All-India Debt and Investment Survey will provide critical data on household indebtedness and asset ownership, the Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households will include data on rural household income and expenditure

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is all set to conduct two key economic surveys – to measure household finances and to gauge the economic situation of India's farmers – between July 2026 and June 2027, the Ministry announced on Thursday.

These are the All-India Debt and Investment Survey (AIDIS) and the Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households.

**Income watch:** Both the nationally representative surveys are to be conducted from July 2026 to June 2027. FILE PHOTO

"Both of these nationally representative surveys are scheduled to be conducted from July 2026 to June 2027," MoSPI said in a press release. "The AIDIS is one of India's most significant surveys on household finance," it added. "The SAS of Agricultural Households, first launched in 2003, is designed to assess the economic conditions of farming communities."

According to MoSPI, the AIDIS provides "critical" data on household indebtedness and asset ownership across both rural and urban areas. "Its findings are instrumental in shaping national accounts, assessing inequality in asset distribution, understanding credit markets, and informing policies of the RBI, MoSPI, and other government institutions," it said.

The SAS of Agricultural Households, on the other hand, includes data on agricultural household income and expenditure, indebtedness and access to credit, land and livestock ownership, crop and livestock production, farming practices and the use of technology, and access to government schemes and crop insurance.

"The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, NITI Aayog, researchers, and financial institutions utilise the survey findings to shape policies and programmes aimed at agriculture and rural development," MoSPI noted.

## MARKETS

### MARKET WATCH

| | THURSDAY | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sensex | 81,549 | 0.15 |
| US Dollar | 88.35 | -0.27 |
| Gold | 1,13,100 | 0.08 |
| Brent oil | 66.34 | -2.06 |

### NIFTY 50

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Adani Enter | 2398.80 | 58.60 |
| Adani Ports | 1393.10 | 4.00 |
| Apollo Hosp | 7879.50 | -49.50 |
| Asian Paints | 2555.90 | 12.60 |
| Axis Bank | 1087.40 | 17.30 |
| Bajaj Auto | 9113.50 | -130.50 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 2037.80 | -0.40 |
| Bajaj Finance | 970.25 | 2.30 |
| Bharat Elec | 385.15 | -2.90 |
| Bharti Airtel | 1913.00 | 21.60 |
| Cipla | 1560.80 | -3.00 |
| Coal India | 393.35 | 1.45 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 1303.10 | -1.10 |
| Eicher Motors | 6758.00 | -78.50 |
| Eternal Ltd. | 328.10 | 3.70 |
| Grasim Ind | 2799.00 | 13.20 |
| HCL Tech | 1467.70 | 3.80 |
| HDFC Bank | 967.80 | 1.90 |
| HDFC Life | 774.25 | -3.35 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 5302.00 | -48.50 |
| Hindalco | 742.65 | -0.50 |
| Hind Unilever | 2622.00 | -21.50 |
| ICICI Bank | 1401.60 | -2.30 |
| IndusInd Bank | 748.60 | -2.65 |
| Infosys | 1509.70 | -22.90 |
| ITC | 415.05 | 2.00 |
| Jio Financial Services Ltd. | 310.70 | 0.65 |
| JSW Steel | 1099.00 | -2.20 |
| Kotak Bank | 1972.30 | -1.00 |
| L&T | 3539.70 | -10.30 |
| M&M | 3595.70 | -8.70 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 15095.00 | -13.00 |
| NestleIndia | 1220.80 | 3.30 |
| NTPC | 331.05 | 5.40 |
| ONGC | 233.76 | 2.02 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 286.80 | 3.85 |
| Reliance Ind | 1383.30 | 6.30 |
| SBI Life | 1814.20 | -19.50 |
| State Bank | 823.65 | 5.45 |
| Shriram Finance Ltd. | 620.05 | 15.25 |
| Sun Pharma | 1609.70 | 16.30 |
| TataConsumerProduct | 1105.30 | 4.30 |
| Tata Motors | 705.85 | -3.25 |
| Tata Steel | 169.41 | -0.02 |
| TCS | 3124.20 | 14.20 |
| Tech Mahindra | 1521.20 | -4.80 |
| Titan | 3584.20 | -36.40 |
| Trent Ltd. | 5171.00 | -22.00 |
| UltraTech Cement | 12392.00 | -86.00 |
| Wipro | 253.91 | -1.84 |

# Infosys announces biggest-ever share buyback of ₹18,000 cr.

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Infosys Ltd. has announced its biggest-ever share buyback of ₹18,000 crore at a 19% premium, as per a regulatory filing the company made late on Thursday evening.

The company would buyback about 10 crore shares, representing 2.41% of equity at ₹1,800 per share, at a 19% premium.

The buyback, through the tender offer, is its biggest ever since the company's listing. Infosys made its listing on Indian bourses way back in 1993 and on NASDAQ in 1999.

According to the filing, the Board of Directors of the Company, in their meeting on September 11, 2025, considered and approved a proposal to buyback equity shares for an amount of ₹18,000 crore at a price of ₹ 1,800 per equity share.

# U.S., Paraguay question India's hiking of support price for rice

**Amiti Sen**
NEW DELHI

**The countries asked India to explain the reason for the increase despite record harvests**

The U.S. and Paraguay, in a joint submission at the WTO, have questioned India's decision to raise Minimum Support Price (MSP) for rice in 2025 despite "record harvests, exports, stocks, and offloading of stocks for ethanol production".

The countries asked India to explain the rationale for increasing the MSP for rice in 2025, while it has been claiming benefits under the 'Bali Interim Decision' (that allows WTO subsidy limits to be breached), given India's record harvests, exports, and stocks exceeding what is necessary to meet domestic food aid needs.

"While the MSP scheme may be part of India's domestic public food distribution system, the scheme's effects on exports and disposal of stocks for non-food purposes appear to go far beyond food security," the U.S. and Paraguay submitted to the Committee of Agriculture (CoA).

**CoA review**

The submission will be taken up for detailed discussions at the CoA review meeting on September 25-26, together with other questions from different members about each other's policies.

*(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)*

### Dr. Reddy's inks pact with J&J

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories on Thursday announced the completion of a definitive transaction with Johnson & Johnson to acquire Stugeron brand across the EMEA regions. PTI

# 'Working to blend isobutanol with diesel after ethanol blending failed'

**Saptaparno Ghosh**
NEW DELHI

The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) is working to explore the possibility of blending 10% isobutanol with diesel, Union Minister for Transport Nitin Gadkari said on Thursday.

Speaking at the annual conclave of the India Sugar and Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA), Mr. Gadkari said whilst trials of blending one-tenth ethanol with diesel was not successful, other than the isobutanol blend, it was also being explored for a potential standalone use. Isobutanol is an alcoholic compound with flammable properties, and is commonly used as a solvent in many industries including paints and coating.

Nitin Gadkari

Mr. Gadkari's announcement comes amid the backlash the government received for petrol blended with ethanol at 20%.

He also said that tractor companies and agricultural equipment manufacturers had expressed eagerness to explore a flex fuel combination of CNG and isobutanol at a recent meeting. Mr. Gadkari said using corn to create an ethanol blend was a success, adding farmers had earned more than ₹42,000 crore, with prices spiking from ₹1,200/quintal to " ₹2,600-2,800/quintal" since they commenced blending.

Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi urged biofuel producers to increase production and look to enter the global market to export ethanol. ISMA president Gautam Goel urged the government to consider, among other things, aligning the fair and remunerative price (FRP) of sugarcane in line with the rising (procurement) costs of cane. The industry body chief also sought the government to consider revision in the minimum support price of sugarcane, and increasing the permissible export quota in the sugar season 2025-26.

**'Healthy harvests'**

Sugar production in 2025-2026 season (October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026) is likely to be 349 lakh tonnes, which will be significantly more than the production in the current year (2024-25).

ISMA said that with a favourable monsoon and healthy growth, the crops in Maharashtra and Karnataka are expected to yield healthy harvests.

*(With inputs from Soundariya Preetha in Coimbatore)*

# Pilgrimage travel demand rises, says MakeMyTrip

**The Hindu Bureau**
COIMBATORE

Pilgrimage travel is emerging as one of the fastest-growing segments in India's travel and tourism industry, according to MakeMyTrip's Pilgrimage Travel Trends 2024-25.

Based on accommodation bookings and pilgrimage holiday packages sold on the platform in 2024-25, the report shows bookings across 56 pilgrimage destinations grew 19% in the last financial year. While 34 destinations recorded double-digit growth, 15 destinations reported growth of more than 25%.

Rajesh Magow, co-founder and group CEO of MakeMyTrip said, "We are seeing steady growth, fuelled by stronger connectivity and Indians across all age groups and income segments planning pilgrimage-led trips."

Visitors seen thronging temples in Khajuraho, a prominent pilgrimage site in M.P.

The company noted that pilgrimage travel, similar to leisure travel, continues to be booked close to the date of departure, with more than 63% of bookings made within six days of travel.

Most trips were short and purpose-driven: 53% of travellers opted for single-night visits, while two-night stays accounted for 31% of trips. Group bookings form a substantial share, with 47% of trips being made in groups.

While a majority of bookings (71%) were for rooms priced below ₹4,500 per night, premiumisation showed momentum with a 24% rise. Alternative accommodation, such as homestays and apartments, also gained traction.

# 'Two-wheeler industry will reach 2018-19 peak volume'

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

Two-wheeler maker TVS Motor Company is hopeful that the industry would get back to its 2018-19 peak volumes in the current financial year, driven by a slew of factors including the GST rate cuts.

"The macro economic factors indicated that FY2026 would be a good year, with factors like good monsoon, personal income tax realignment, repo rate cuts. The GST rate cuts will act has a big catalyst. We are very optimistic this will be one of the best festive seasons," said Aniruddha Haldar, a senior executive at the company.

**Office of Chief Engineer (Administration),Public Health Engineering Department, Jal Bhawan, 2-Civil Lines Jaipur, Rajasthan**
S.No.15596 dated 28/0825
**BID NOTICE 2025-26/ 06 and 07**
On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, PHED invites bids online in electronic format on website http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. from manufacturers for Procurement of ISI Marked MS Pipes Size 125-150mm conforming to IS:1239 (Amended/Revised up to date) and Procurement of ISI Marked MS Pipes Size 200mm conforming to IS 4270:2001(Amended/Revised up to date) For details please visit website www.sppp.rajastan.gov.in & http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.
NIB Code:- PHE2526A2938
UBN Code:- MS Pipes (125-150mm)- PHE2526GLRC05865
MS Pipes (200mm)- PHE2526GLRC05866
(ASHOK KUMAR CHORDIA)
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
MATERIAL MANAGEMENT CIRCLE
DIPR/C/13056/2025 PHED RAJASTHAN,JAIPUR

**Dr.N.T.R. UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, A.P., VIJAYAWADA-520008**
**NOTIFICATION FOR ADMISSIONS INTO BAMS & BHMS COURSES**
Application forms through online are invited from the eligible candidates for admission into BAMS & BHMS Courses under All India Quota (AIQ) Seats and Management Quota Seats in Private Un-aided Non-Minority Homoeopathy and Ayurvedic Colleges affiliated to University for the academic year 2025-26.

| | |
|---|---|
| **All India Quota (AIQ) Seats and Management Quota (MQ) Seats Schedule:** | **10.00 A.M on 12.09.2025 to 09.00 P.M on 17.09.2025** |

Visit University Website **https://drntr.uhsap.in** for detailed Notification/ Prospectus/ Regulations & Online Application
VIJAYAWADA Sd/- Dr. V. Radhika Reddy
DATE: 11.09.2025 REGISTRAR

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क्रमांक: 8809 दिनांक: 27.08.2025
**निविदा सूचना संख्या : 20 वर्ष 2025–26**
NIB No. PWD2526A2956
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से **विभिन्न सड़कों के निर्माण कार्य** हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ईटेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. PWD2526WSOB11123 | 2. PWD2526WSOB11125 | 3. PWD2526WSOB11126 |

ई–साईन
(नेमी चन्द शर्मा), अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,
सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर
DIPR/C/12793/2025

**Dr. MAHALINGAM COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**
Established in 1998 • An Autonomous Institution Since 2011
POLLACHI, COIMBATORE - 642 003
**TENDER NOTICE**
Tender no:MCET/Idealab/2025-26/01
Inviting sealed tender from reputed supplier for the equipment, tools and consumables for supply, installation and commissioning for the establishment of AICTE Idea Lab, As per AICTE Guidelines.
The list of equipment and specifications available at: www.drmcet.ac.in/idealab
Last date for submission: 26.09.2025 Email:idealab@drmcet.ac.in
www.drmcet.ac.in drmcet.ac.in

**RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.**
O/o CE(fuel), 6th Floor, hall no. 2, LIC Jeevandeep Building, Lalkothi, Jaipur
**E-TENDER NOTICE : TN-08 (RVU2526GLOB01230)**
E-Tenders are invited by RVUN for EPC of Fly Ash Rail Loading Facility at Kalisindh Thermal Power Plant (KaTPP), Unit 1 & 2 based on Build, Operate and Transfer concept along with disposal of Fly Ash Generated from KaTPP Unit-1 & 2. Tender details are available on **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** (for e-tender), **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**
Raj.Samwad/C/25/9731 RVUN/PR-4263 Superintending Engineer (Fuel)

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in, Mobile No. 96461-55525
**Open E- Tender Enq No.** 661/P-3/EMPW-13120 dt. 10.09.25
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2025_POWER_149513_1 for Major overhauling covering supply of spares, installation and commissioning of ESP of unit 4 of 210MW capacity GGSSTP, Rupnagar to restore the mechanical health of ESP.. (through e-tendering). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to ***https://eproc.punjab.gov.in*** from **11.09.2025/ 02.00 PM onwards**.
**Note:** Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at ***https://eproc.punjab.gov.in***
RTP 104/25 1079/12/2025-26/3074

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-भरतपुर**
क्रमांक: ए.सी.ई./बी.टी.पी/निविदा/2025-26/डी-1194 दिनांक 28/08/25
**निविदा सूचना संख्या : 13/2025-26**
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से बजट घोषणा 2024-25 के अन्तर्गत भरतपुर संभाग के अधीन जिला डीग में बाईपास निर्माण मय आर.ओ.बी. कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्रीय सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न सक्षम श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण बेवसाईट **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in"** एवं **"www.sppp.raj.nic.in"** पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से बेवसाईट **"www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in"** पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक हैं।
NIBNO. **PWD2526A2967**
UBNO.- **PWD2526WL0B11157**
DIPR/C/12819/2025 अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सानिवि, संभाग भरतपुर

राजस्थान सरकार
**आयुक्तालय, कॉलेज शिक्षा, राजस्थान, जयपुर**
Block-4, RKS Sankul, JLN Road, Jaipur- 302015, Rajasthan
Website: http://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/dept/dce/ e-mail: innovation.ccera1@gmail.com Ph.: 0141-2706847 )0)
International Year of Cooperatives 2025
**File No.** CCE/ISDC/RFC-BA/2024-25/00011/ 523
**Notice Inviting Bid**
Bids for Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Empanelment of Industry / Industry promoted or partnered institution to conduct demand-based skill training with Corporate Certification under the "Rajasthan Finishing School Program" in the Government Colleges of Rajasthan are invited from interested bidders up to 03:00 PM on 29/09/2025. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in/sppp/index.php)** of the state, and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs.25 Crores.
**UBN**:ECD2526SLOB00238
**e-Proc**:2025_DOCE_498702_1
Commissioner
College Education
DIPR/C/13102/2025

**BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT**
Office of the Commissioner, No. 16-D, 3rd Floor,
D. Devaraj Urs Bhavan, Millers Tank
Bed Area, Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru - 560 052.
Ph.: +91-80-29505530, e-mail : bcwd.hostels@karnataka.gov.in
No.:BCWD-12020/4/2025-Hostel-Part(1) Date: 11.09.2025
**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Through e-tendering only)**
Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for providing the following basic facilities required for the hostels of the Backward Classes Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Item | Approx.Amount (Rs. in Crores) |
|---|---|---|
| 01 | Coir Mattress | 10.00 |
| 02 | Two Tier Cot | 40.00 |

For details, Please visit website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** The last date for submission of tender is **10.10.2025 upto 5.00 p.m.**
Sd/-
(Tender Inviting Authority)
Joint Director (Hostels)
DIPR/CP/JA/2773/2025-26 Backward Classes Welfare Department

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग संभाग–प्रथम, उदयपुर**
क्रमांक :– ACE/NIT/2025-26/D-349 दिनांक : 28/08/2025
**निविदा संख्या – 12 / 2025-26**
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से ***सड़क/पुल निर्माण कार्य*** हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के ए, एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र मे सड़क/पुल निर्माण कार्य के लिए ई– प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से ऑन लाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

| | |
|---|---|
| कार्य का नाम | कुल 5 (पाँच) कार्य |
| निविदा की कुल लागत | राशि रु. 3542.00 लाख |
| ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख | 09.09.2025 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से 06.10.2025 सांय 6.00 बजे तक |
| ऑनलाईन निविदा खोलने की तारीख | 08.10.2025 सांय 4.00 बजे से |

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाइन सम्पादित की जावेगी।
NIB – PWD2526A2968 UBN – PWD2526WLOB11158, PWD2526WLOB11159 PWD2526WLOB11160, PWD2526WLOB11161, PWD2526WSOB11162
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/12829/2025 सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग–प्रथम उदयपुर

**JERUSALEM**

## Israel PM signs major settlement project, vows 'no Palestinian state'

AFP

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed on Thursday that there would be no Palestinian state, speaking at a signing ceremony for a major settlement project in the occupied West Bank. "We are going to fulfil our promise that there will be no Palestinian state, this place belongs to us," Mr. Netanyahu said at the event. AFP

**SEOUL**

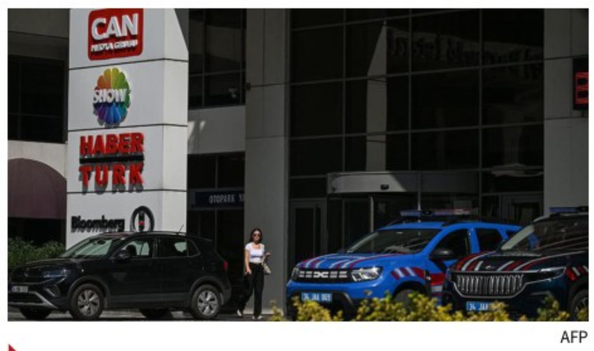
## North Korea's Kim Ju Ae 'likely successor', says Seoul spy agency

AFP

South Korea's spy agency said on Thursday that Kim Jong-un's daughter, Ju Ae, is understood to be his recognised successor after her Beijing visit with Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin. State media highlighted that her status was evident in state media photos, despite earlier rumours of another son. AFP

**ISTANBUL**

## Turkiye prosecutors seize 3 TV stations as part of fraud probe




AFP

Turkish prosecutors on Thursday seized Can Holding's 121-company empire, including *Haberturk*, *Show TV*, and *Bloomberg HT*, ordering 10 arrests over "fraud, tax evasion, and money laundering". Executives were detained, while critics warned the move also risks tightening control over media. AFP

**SANAA**

## Israel intercepts missile fired from Yemen after deadly Sanaa strikes

AFP

Israel's army said it intercepted a missile from Yemen on Thursday, a day after Israeli strikes in Sanaa and Jawf killed 35 and wounded 131. No one claimed responsibility, but Iran-backed Houthis, long-time Hamas allies, have repeatedly launched drones and missiles at Israel since October 2023. AFP

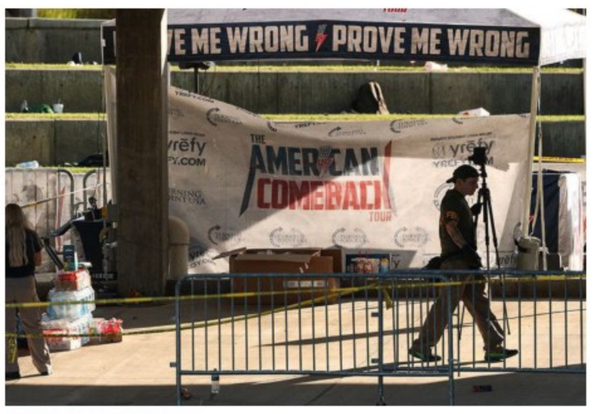
# Conservative activist Charlie Kirk killed in Utah; shooter still at large

Authorities have provided little information about the shooter's identity, motive, location or evidence; Trump calls Kirk a 'martyr for truth and freedoms'; shooting draws renewed attention to escalating threat of political violence in the country

**Associated Press**
OREM

Authorities searched on Thursday for a sniper who assassinated Charlie Kirk, a conservative 31-year-old activist and close ally of President Donald Trump, with one bullet and then slipped away amid the mayhem resulting from the latest act of political violence to befall America.

Kirk was killed with a gunshot from a distant rooftop on the Utah Valley University campus, where he was speaking on Wednesday, authorities said. Federal, state and local authorities were working what they called "multiple active crime scenes". As the search stretched into a second day, they provided little information about the shooter's identity, motive, location or evidence and were reviewing grainy security videos of a mysterious person in dark clothing.




**Active investigation:** Law enforcement officials work near the site where Charlie Kirk was killed at Utah Valley University. AFP

"This is a dark day for our state. It is a tragic day for our nation," Utah Governor Spencer Cox said. "I want to be very clear this is a political assassination."

**Person of interest**

The FBI released two photos of a person of interest. The release of photos of a person in a hat, sunglasses and a long-sleeve black shirt, as well as a $100,000 reward for information leading to an arrest, reflected law enforcement's urgent appeal for public help in locating the shooter, who vanished after jumping off the roof and fleeing through a wooded area near the Utah university.

Two people were detained on Wednesday, but neither was determined to be connected to the shooting and both were released, public safety officials said.

The circumstances of the shooting drew renewed attention to an escalating threat of political violence in the United States that in the last several years has cut across the ideological spectrum. The assassination drew bipartisan condemnation, but a national reckoning over ways to prevent political grievances from manifesting as deadly violence seemed elusive.

Videos posted to social media from Utah Valley University show Kirk speaking into a handheld microphone while sitting under a white tent emblazoned with the slogans "The American Comeback" and "Prove Me Wrong". A shot rings out, and Kirk can be seen reaching up with his right hand as blood gushes from the left side of his neck. Stunned spectators gasp and scream before people start running away.

Vice President J.D. Vance and his wife, Usha, were set to visit with Kirk's family on Thursday in Salt Lake City.

According to a person familiar with Mr. Vance's plans but not authorised to speak about them publicly, the Vances will visit Utah instead of New York, which had been their planned destination for an outdoor ceremony to commemorate September 11.

Kirk was speaking at a debate hosted by his nonprofit political youth organisation, Arizona-based Turning Point USA, at the Sorensen Center courtyard on campus. Immediately before the shooting, he was taking questions from an audience member about gun violence.

Mr. Trump announced Kirk's death on social media and praised the cofounder and CEO of Turning Point as "Great, and even Legendary." Later, he released a recorded video from the White House in which he called Kirk a "martyr for truth and freedom".

# Britain's U.S. Ambassador sacked over Epstein links

**Sriram Lakshman**
LONDON

U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer has sacked the country's Ambassador to the U.S., Peter Mandelson, over the envoy's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

Mr. Mandelson's departure was announced on Friday, just days before U.S. President Donald Trump's State visit to the U.K.

"In light of the additional information in emails written by Peter Mandelson, the Prime Minister has asked the Foreign Secretary to withdraw him as Ambassador. The emails show that the depth and extent of Peter Mandelson's relationship with Jeffrey Epstein is materially different from that known at the time of his appointment," the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said in a statement.

That Mr. Mandelson had links with Epstein, who died in prison in 2019, was known before his appointment to the role in Washington months ago.

Peter Mandelson

Additional details of Mr. Mandelson's relationship with Epstein emerged after Democrats in the U.S. released pages from Epstein's 50th birthday book, put together in 2003. Democrats in the U.S. Congress have been attempting to get the Trump administration to release the files the U.S. government has on Epstein. The issue has become a political flashpoint, focused on the nature of Mr. Trump's links with Epstein. The White House has denied that a sexually suggestive message in Epstein's 50th birthday book, purportedly signed by Mr. Trump, was actually signed by him.

Mr. Mandelson refers to Epstein as his "best pal" in the book.

The *Sun* newspaper reported that Mr. Mandelson had suggested to Epstein that the latter's conviction of child prostitution in 2008 was wrong.

"I think the world of you and I feel hopeless and furious about what has happened," Mr. Mandelson had reportedly told Epstein.

The former envoy said earlier this week in a interview that he regretted "very, very deeply" the length of his association with Epstein, adding, however, that he never witnessed any "wrongdoing".

The sacking of Mr. Mandelson makes to Mr. Starmer's political vulnerability. Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner, a staunch ally of Mr. Starmer, resigned days ago over not having paid enough tax on a house, leading to a Cabinet reshuffle.

Conservative Party chief and the Leader of the Opposition Leader Kemi Badenoch had called Mr. Mandelson's position "untenable" on Wednesday and called for him to be fired.

# Netanyahu 'killed any hope' of hostage release, says Qatar

**Associated Press**
DOHA

Qatar's Prime Minister said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "killed any hope" of releasing hostages still held in the Gaza Strip after Israel attacked Hamas leaders in Doha.

The comments from Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, ahead of appearing at the United Nations on Thursday, underscored the wider anger among Gulf Arab countries over Israel's strike that killed at least six people.

"I was meeting one of the hostages' families the morning of the attack," Sheikh Mohammed told *CNN* in an interview aired late Wednesday. "They are counting on this [ceasefire] mediation. They have no other hope for that."

Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani

Sheikh Mohammed added: "I think that what Netanyahu has done yesterday (Tuesday), he just killed any hope for those hostages."

His remarks came as thousands of Palestinians continued to flee Gaza City ahead of Israel's impending offensive there. The numbers leaving the city have grown in recent days, though many have refused because they say they no longer have the strength or money to relocate.

The Israeli military's plans for the next phases of its operation in what it calls Hamas's last remaining stronghold are aimed at taking over the largest Palestinian city.

## Manila slams China nature reserve plan for Shoal

**Agence France-Presse**
MANILA

The Philippines on Thursday protested Beijing's plan for a "nature reserve" on the disputed Scarborough Shoal, with a top official calling it a pretext for "eventual occupation" of the South China Sea site.

China revealed plans a day earlier for an 8,707 acres-reserve to maintain "diversity, stability, and sustainability of the natural ecosystem of Huangyan Island", Beijing's name for the contested chain of reefs.

# Poland vows to press ahead with 'military modernisation' after drone incursion

**Associated Press**
WARSAW

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk pledged on Thursday to push ahead with a "great modernisation program" for his country's military, a day after Russian drones crossed into Poland and amplified international tensions around Russia's invasion of Ukraine, including what the Kremlin's future territorial ambitions might be.

European officials described Wednesday's incursion – which occurred during a wave of recent unrelenting Russian strikes on Ukraine – as a deliberate provocation, forcing the NATO alliance to confront a potential threat in its airspace for the first time.

It deepened long-standing fears that the three-year war between Poland's neighbours could precipitate a wider conflict. U.S.-led efforts to steer Moscow and Kyiv toward a peace settlement have so far failed to get traction.

Donald Tusk

The Polish Air Navigation Agency announced on Thursday morning that Poland was introducing air traffic restrictions in the eastern part of the country. It said the step was taken at the request of the Polish army for national security reasons but did not elaborate.

Poland said some of the drones that entered its airspace came from Belarus, where Russian and local troops have begun gathering for war games scheduled to start on Friday. Poland is closing its border with Belarus at midnight Thursday, a planned move also associated with the military exercises.

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c-dit
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (C-DIT)
Thiruvallam, Thiruvananthapuram-27
Ph: 0471-2380910/912/895

TENDER NOTICE

C-DIT invites e tender for "Printing and Supply of High Security IDP Booklet" Last date: 19.09.2025, 03.00 PM
2025_CDIT_796329_1
For details visit www.cdit.org
11.09.2025 Registrar, C-DIT

HITES
HLL INFRA TECH SERVICES LTD
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
HITES, on behalf of Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Limited (NUPPL / PSOCP) invites online bids for **Establishment of Integrated Township, Administrative Office and other allied Infrastructures works at Pachwara South Coal Block, NUPPL, Dumka, Jharkhand on EPC basis**. Estimated cost **Rs 132.75 Cr. (incl. GST)**.
For details visit https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app and www.hllhites.com/tenders from 12.09.2025 onwards.
Vice President (IDN), HITES Noida

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PWD ZONE KOTA
No. 1944 Dated 26.8.2025
NIT No. 28/2025-26
Notice Inviting Bid
NIB No. PWD2526A2927
Bids for **Budget Announcement Year 2024-25 & 2025-26 PWD Zone Kota/ Bundi** are invited **Road Works** from interested bidders **upto 6.00 pm, 23.09.2025.** Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the **Rajasthan** and http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 2504.83 lacs. (4 Works)**
1. PWD2526WSOB10982 2. PWD2526WSOB10983
3. PWD2526WSOB10984 4. PWD2526WSOB10985
5. PWD2526WLOB10986
DIPR/C/12774/2025
Addl. Chief Engineer
PWD Zone Kota

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Ph: 080-28094182/ 4541, Fax: 080-28094180
CORRIGENDUM-I DT: 11.09.2025
On behalf of President of India, **item rate E-tender** is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for following works.

| | |
|---|---|
| NIT No. | **ISTRAC/CMG/E/CON/E-Tender-51/ 2025-2026 dated: 14.08.2025** |
| Name of work | **Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 10kWP (minimum capacity) to 50kWP (maximum capacity) capacity (totalling to 380 kWP) rooftop Solar Power Plant at various location of ISTRAC, ISRO.** |
| Estimated Cost put to tender | **Rs. 230.00 Lakhs** |
| Tender Document details | **E-Tender** |
| Period of Completion | **Six (06) months** |
| Period during which tender documents can be downloaded | From 16.00 hrs. on 16.08.2025 to 06.09.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 17.09.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.** |
| Bid clarifications | From 11.00 hrs. on 17.08.2025 to 07.09.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 18.09.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.** |
| Last date of reply to Bid clarification | 08.09.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 19.09.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.** |
| Last date & time for receipt of tenders | 09.09.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 20.09.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.** |
| Due date & time of opening of tenders | 11.09.2025 after 11.00 hrs. **Extended up to 22.09.2025 after 11.00 Hrs.** |
| Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) | **Rs. 4,60,000.00** |

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**
Sd/- Group Head-CMG

COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SERVICES LTD
(A subsidiary of Cochin International Airport Limited)
CIASL/ENGG/HANGARDOOR/28/2025-26 12/09/2025
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed item rate tenders are invited from reputed contractors / firms for DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF VERTICAL LIFTING FABRIC HOIST UP HANGAR DOOR FOR NEW CIASL HANGAR FACILITY, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cochin International Airport Limited.

| Name of Work | Estimated Amount (Rs) | EMD (Rs) | Period of Completion |
|---|---|---|---|
| DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF VERTICAL LIFTING FABRIC HOIST UP HANGAR DOOR FOR NEW CIASL HANGAR FACILITY | 392 Lakhs | 8 Lakhs | 6 months |

For more details visit our website **www.ciasl.aero** , Ph: 0484-2611785.
Sd/- **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF WIND ENERGY
(Under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy)
Government of India
Velachery-Tambaram Main Road, Pallikaranai, Chennai-600 100
Tel. No. +91-44-22463982/83/84
Advt.01/2025: WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR VARIOUS POSTS (On Contract)
National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) is the technical arm of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India established to serve as a technical focal point for orderly development of Wind Power deployment. This Institute proposes to recruit the following posts purely **on contract basis for Vayumithra Skill Development Programme (VSDP) Phase II.**

| Sl. No. | Details | Post Code | No. of positions | Category | Consolidated Remuneration (P.M) in Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Web Developer, Database Management, Portal Maintenance** | VSDP-WD - 01 | 1 No. | UR | 60000 |
| 2 | **Program Coordinator Technical** | VSDP-PCT- 02 | 1 No. | UR | 50000 |
| 3. | **Program Coordinator Finance** | VSDP-PCF - 03 | 1 No. | UR | 50000 |

Details of essential qualification, experience, age limit, period of contract, other terms & conditions etc., are available in the website: **https://niwe.res.in/careers.php** Interested candidates are requested to attend **Walk-in-Interview to be held on 27.09.2025** at NIWE campus as per the above address.
**Additional Director** [Finance & Administration]

EXPERT ADVICE

## Kapil Dev urges India to stay focused on its performance

REUTERS

Kapil Dev urged India to remain focused on performance and not get distracted by external factors ahead of its clash against Pakistan on Sunday. "The team should stay focused solely on the game. They have a good team and must win. The government will do its job, and the players should do theirs," Kapil told reporters.

ONE-UP

## South Africa wins rain-marred opening T20I against England

AP

South Africa won a rain-shortened first T20I by 14 runs after England failed to chase down a revised target of 69 off five overs in Cardiff. **The scores:** SA 97/5 in 7.5 overs (Markram 28, Ferreira 25 n.o., Wood 2/22) bt Eng 54/5 in 5 overs (Buttler 25, Bosch 2/20, Jansen 2/18) via DLS method. **Toss:** England. **PoM:** Ferreira.

UPS AND DOWNS

## Vaishali in sole lead; Nihal scores an upset win, Gukesh loses again

FIDE

India's R. Vaishali beat Guo Qi in the seventh round of the women's section in the FIDE Grand Swiss in Samarkand to take the sole lead with six points. In the Open event, Nihal Sarin upset leader Parham Maghsoodloo to move into joint top spot. World champion D. Gukesh suffered his third straight loss, going down to Ediz Gurel.

CLOSE GAME

## Zafardanesh shines as U Mumba pips Patna Pirates in a thriller

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Amirmohammad Zafardanesh starred with a Super 10 as U Mumba edged out Patna Pirates 40-39 in a PKL 12 match in Visakhapatnam. Ayan Lohchab became the first to record successive 20-point games in the league's history, but an unforced error in the dying seconds cost his side the game. Dabang Delhi defeated Gujarat Giants 38-28.

# Dube credits Morkel for impressive bowling show

**Vivek Krishnan**
DUBAI

**Master and pupil:** Dube was all praise for Morkel after his three-wicket haul against the UAE. X@BCCI

Shivam Dube has bowled a grand total of three overs for Chennai Super Kings in the last three IPL seasons owing to the Impact Player rule.

When India ended its 11-year hoodoo at ICC events by winning the 2024 T20 World Cup in the Caribbean, Dube's services as a medium-pacer were utilised for all of six deliveries.

None of this can be ideal for an all-rounder whose job profile demands involvement in the heat of the battle at all times.

It is to Dube's credit, then, that he hasn't been deterred by the lack of opportunities and allowed his secondary skill to take a complete backseat.

Against the United Arab Emirates in the Asia Cup on Wednesday, although victory was far too straightforward for India to seek constructive meaning, there was gratification for the Mumbaikar in scalping three wickets in two overs.

"Definitely, today's start was very important. I have always prepared for four overs as an all-rounder. Whenever I get an opportunity to bowl three-four overs, I am ready for it," Dube told reporters.

The encouragement from India's bowling coach Morne Morkel has aided the 32-year-old.

"When I came for the England series (in January), he told me a few things. He suggested that I bowl more outside (off-stump) and told me a couple of things related to the slower ball. He also said a few things about my run-up. Because of those two-three things, my bowling is getting better. My pace is also improving," Dube said.

What Dube's presence in the middle-order does is bolster India's batting depth while also ensuring six bowling options, with Axar Patel, who plundered a 31-ball 47 at the fall of the third wicket in last year's T20 World Cup final, coming in at No. 8. To some extent, it helps India plug the gaping void left by Ravindra Jadeja's T20I retirement.

A lengthier batting unit has evolved into a requirement across formats, illustrated by India preferring just three specialist bowlers to go with three all-rounders right through the recent Test series in England.

For Dube to continue justifying his spot, his primary role remains producing fireworks with the bat. For that, he has also been working on countering the short ball.

"Yes, I can hit in certain areas. But certain bowlers are there who come at me with short balls. So, during the IPL and even after it, I have been working on adding more shots," he said.

# Litton and Hridoy star for Bangladesh

The two add 95 for the third wicket; Hong Kong's total of 143 proves inadequate in another one-sided contest in the tournament

ASIA CUP

**Dhruva Prasad**
ABU DHABI

Litton Das and Towhid Hridoy's match-winning partnership for the third wicket was a throwback to the early days of T20 batting, when minimising risk was still trendy.

The duo proved that the retro quality it imbibed was still efficient as Bangladesh cantered to a seven-wicket victory against Hong Kong at the Zayed Cricket Stadium here to get its Asia Cup campaign off to a winning start.

They diligently tailgated the required rate till the 10-over mark, with 74 runs on the board and Litton and Hridoy batting on an identical 14 off 15 balls.

After two more overs of circumspection and with the asking rate nudging seven, Litton brought out the reverse sweep to end a 32-ball boundary drought.

### Breaking the shackles

That opened the floodgates, as the Bangladesh skipper shelved caution for flair to smash four fours and a six in the next 24 balls. However, he couldn't impart the final flourish, falling with just two runs needed.

His partner, Hridoy, completed the task with a single, a fitting end to another one-sided contest in the tournament.

Earlier, Hong Kong exceeded its expectations after being asked to bat. Five of its batters had their pads on when they lined up for the national anthems. It was perhaps a precautionary measure as Hong Kong had lost three wickets off 14 balls against Afghanistan a couple of nights ago.

However, the No. 5 batter ambled in only in the 12th over, after Zeeshan Ali and Nizakat Khan had added 41 runs at a run-a-ball.

It wasn't a scene-shifting alliance, but a stodgy resistance that kept Hong Kong in the match at the halfway stage.

### Mix-up

Skipper Yasim Murtaza could have added heft to Hong Kong's total if not for a horrible mix-up with Nizakat in the 18th over, but even then, it may not have been enough.

**The scores:**
Hong Kong 143/7 in 20 overs (Zeeshan Ali 30, Nizakat Khan 42, Taskin Ahmed 2/38, Tanzim Hasan Sakib 2/21, Rishad Hossain 2/31) lost to Bangladesh 144/3 in 17.4 overs (Litton Das 59, Towhid Hridoy 35 n.o., Ateeq Iqbal 2/14). **Toss:** Bangladesh; **PoM:** Litton.

**Captain's knock:** Litton's quick-fire fifty ensured an easy victory for Bangladesh. GETTY IMAGES

# Excited to be part of a highly-charged event, says Hesson

**Vivek Krishnan**
DUBAI

Hesson says players are looking forward to the India game. AFP

Today's match

Oman vs. Pakistan
Dubai, 8 p.m. IST
HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is
FIRST MEETING

LIVE ON SONY SPORTS TEN 5 (SD & HD) & LIV

Pakistan's opening encounter of the Asia Cup is against Oman on Friday, but Sunday's marquee spectacle versus India featured prominently in coach Mike Hesson's pre-match media interaction.

Instead of trotting out cliches about the Pakistanis taking one game at a time, the New Zealander was more than willing to have his say on the big battle.

"Being part of a highly-charged event is going to be exciting," Hesson, who took over the reins in May, said on Thursday.

"From my perspective, just like anytime you enter the final of a world event, it is about keeping everybody focused on the job at hand. We know India is obviously hugely confident and rightfully so. But we are very much focused on improving as a team day by day. We are well aware of the challenge of the task ahead and we are certainly looking forward to it."

In India's comprehensive win over the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Wednesday, spinners Kuldeep Yadav, Varun Chakaravarthy and Axar Patel came good. But Hesson believes his tweakers can be just as lethal. In the lead-up to this event, Pakistan won a tri-series involving Afghanistan and UAE in Sharjah on pitches that spun considerably.

Left-arm spinner Mohammad Nawaz, leggie Abrar Ahmed and left-arm wrist-spinner Sufiyan Muqeem are part of Pakistan's armoury.

"I don't think this pitch is going to spin as much. Even yesterday, when Kuldeep bowled, it didn't spin a huge amount. But when you have wrist spinners, the surface doesn't matter as much. The beauty of our side is we have got five spinners. We have got Nawaz. And obviously we've had Abrar and Sufiyan do as well as they have. Saim Ayub is now in the top 10 all-rounders in the world, and Salman Agha has hardly bowled. We have got a lot of spin bowling options if we think conditions suit that," Hesson enthused.

# Sports leaders, icons all set to chart out a bright future

**Sports Bureau**

SPORTSTAR × KPMG
PLAYCOM
BUSINESS OF SPORTS SUMMIT | 2025

The PlayCom - Business of Sports Summit 2025, jointly hosted by *Sportstar* and KPMG in India, will bring together policymakers, athletes, and industry leaders to frame the next chapter of Indian sport.

### Keynote address

The two-day conclave, at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, opens on Friday with a keynote address by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Honourable Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, who will also unveil the KPMG *Sportstar* India Business of Sports Report. This will be followed by an address from P.T. Usha, president, Indian Olympic Association.

Among the key discussions on day one is a panel titled "India in a League of its Own: How India Shapes Global Sport", featuring Arun Dhumal (Chairman, Indian Premier League), Anupam Goswami (Business Head - Mashal & League Commissioner, Pro Kabaddi League), Rajah Chaudhry (Head of Strategy, Asia Pacific & Country Head - India, NBA), and Vita Dani (Co-Owner, Chennaiyin FC; Chairperson, Ultimate Table Tennis; Promoter, Dani Sports Foundation).

The conversation then moves into the future of fandom with "Stadiums Without Walls: Building the Next Fan Universe", featuring Siddharth Sharma (Head, Viewership and Monetisation Initiative - Sports, JioStar), Veer Damaraju (EVP, Technology, DAZN India), Aneesh Madani (Ex-IOC, Partnerships & Innovation), and Nikhil Bansal (Head - Gaming & eServices, Google India).

### Regional spotlight

A strong regional spotlight follows through the Tamil Nadu State Showcase, led by J. Meghanatha Reddy IAS (Member Secretary and CEO, Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority), and a discussion on "Grassroots to Glory: Tamil Nadu's Olympic Dream" with Dr. Atulya Misra IAS (Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Youth Welfare and Sports Development).

Day one will close with "Athlete Economy and Influence: Nurturing India's Olympic Movement", bringing together Neerav Tomar (CEO & MD, IOS Sports & Entertainment) with Olympic and Paralympic stars Sumit Antil, Rani Rampal, Vijender Singh, and Manpreet Singh.

Day two shifts focus to long-term ambitions with "Gameplan 2036: India's Global Event Ambitions", featuring Hari Ranjan Rao IAS (Secretary, Sports, Government of India), Gagan Narang (Vice President, Indian Olympic Association) and Achanta Sharath Kamal (Olympian, Vice Chairperson, Athletes Commission, IOA).

A Uttar Pradesh State Showcase will be presented by Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj IAS (Secretary Sports, Government of Uttar Pradesh).

The summit will also feature a special fireside chat, "Leadership & Life Beyond the Pitch", with Kapil Dev, the 1983 World Cup-winning India captain.

With its mix of national leaders, state initiatives, league architects, and sporting icons, *Sportstar* PlayCom 2025 promises a definitive conversation on India's sporting future.

# Pooja ensures third medal for India

BOXING

**Sports Bureau**

Pooja... on a high.

Olympian Pooja Rani rallied to edge past Poland's Emilia Koterska 3-2 in a hard-fought quarterfinal bout to move into the women's 80kg semifinals and secure a third medal for India at the World boxing championships in Liverpool. It was the best-ever achievement for Pooja, who made a comeback to the ring this season following a break.

After Nikhat Zareen (51kg) lost to Turkiye's Buse Naz Cakiroglu 0-5 and Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) outshone young Uzbek Khumorabonu Mamjonova 5-0 to ensure the country's second medal, Pooja assured another podium finish for India late on Wednesday.

The 34-year-old, who got a bye because of her World Cup stage-II silver in Astana and began her journey from the quarterfinals in a field of 12 boxers, trailed 2-3 as Emilia delivered good combinations in the first round.

The Indian southpaw fought back spectacularly by stepping up her attack and landing solid backhand head shots to take the second round with a 5-0 verdict.

She maintained her superiority in the scrappy third round to get a favourable decision. Pooja will face Englishwoman Emily Asquith, a former World youth and junior champion, in the semifinals.

However, it was the end of the road for Abhinash Jamwal as he was beaten 1-4 by Georgia's Lasha Guruli in the last-eight.

# China hands a profligate India its first loss of the tournament

HOCKEY

**Press Trust of India**
HANGZHOU

**Wasteful:** The Indian women failed to capitalise on the opportunities. X@THEHOCKEYINDIA

A wasteful Indian women's hockey team suffered its first defeat of the Asia Cup, going down 1-4 to hosts China in a Super 4s match here on Thursday.

Mumtaz Khan (38th minute) netted India's lone goal, while Zou Meirong, Chen Yang and Tan Jinzhuang scored for the hosts.

India struggled with finishing and failed to convert any of the three penalty corners.

### Lively

It was a lively first quarter with both sides attacking and creating good opportunities. However, it was China which secured the opening goal early on.

In the fourth minute, India did well to make a good save but the ball landed in front of Meirong on the rebound, and she tapped it into the empty net.

India won its first penalty corner in the 10th minute but couldn't make it past the Chinese defence.

In the last five minutes of the second quarter, India increased the tempo of the game as it applied constant pressure on the Chinese defence and controlled possession in search of a first goal.

In the 27th minute, India won another penalty corner but that too didn't amount to a goal as it headed back into the break a goal behind.

In the first minute of the third quarter, China increased the lead by getting a goal as India gave away the ball in its own circle to an unmarked Yang, who scored with a simple finish.

China then won its first penalty corner but the attempt went wide off the target. In the 38th minute, Mumtaz scored an incredible field goal for India to reduce the deficit.

India will next play against Japan on Friday in its third match of the Super 4s, looking for a victory to secure a spot in the final and clash again with the hosts for the title.

**The result:**
China 4 (Zou Meirong 4, 56, Chen Yang 31, Tan Jinzhuang 47) bt India 1 (Mumtaz Khan 38).

## INBRIEF

### Washington joins Hampshire for Championship campaign

India's Washington Sundar has joined Hampshire for its last two matches of the 2025 Championship campaign, the English county side said on Thursday. Hampshire signed him for its matches against Somerset and Surrey.

### Archer Gatha advances to the pre-quarterfinals at Worlds

Fifteen-year-old Gatha Khadake reached the women's recurve individual pre-quarterfinals at the World archery championships in Gwangju on Thursday. Gatha beat Azerbaijan's Fatima Huseynli 7-1, Great Britain's Thea Rogers 6-0 and Germany's Katharina Bauer 6-4.

**Other results: Recurve: Individual: Women:** Ankita Bhakat bt Elena Bendikova (Slo) 7-3 (1st round), bt Rezza Octavia (Pol) 6-0 (2nd round), lost to Lim Siheyon (Kor) 2-6 (3rd round); Deepika Kumari got byes (1st and 2nd rounds), lost to Diananda Choirunisa (Ina) 4-6 (3rd round).

### Dominant show by top seeds Sathiyan and Diya

Top seeds G. Sathiyan and Diya Chitale stamped their authority in the men's and women's events of the UTT National-ranking table tennis championships in New Delhi on Thursday.

**The results: Men: Final:** G. Sathiyan bt Ankur Bhattacharjee 11-5, 11-8, 11-13, 11-7, 11-9; **Semifinals:** Ankur bt Harmeet Desai 9-11, 9-11, 11-9, 11-5, 11-6, 11-9; Sathiyan bt Akash Pal 11-5, 11-7, 14-12, 8-11, 7-11, 11-9.
**Women: Final:** Diya Chitale bt Sutirtha Mukherjee 11-9, 11-7, 11-9, 11-6; **Semifinals:** Diya bt Yashaswini Ghorpade 5-11, 11-7, 11-6, 11-6, 11-4; Sutirtha bt Sayanika Maji 11-9, 6-11, 11-4, 13-11, 13-11.
**Under-19: Boys: Final:** P.B. Abhinandh bt Oishik Ghosh 11-7, 9-11, 12-10, 11-8, 14-12; **Semifinals:** Abhinandh bt Punit Biswas 11-7, 4-11, 11-6, 12-10; Oishik bt Senthil Kumar Mehan 11-9, 11-9, 13-11.
**Girls: Final:** M. Hansini bt Jennifer Varghese 11-4, 11-3, 14-12, 11-4; **Semifinals:** Jennifer bt Syndrela Das 11-3, 11-7, 6-11, 6-11, 11-5; Hansini bt Naisha Rewaskar 11-7, 11-4, 11-3.

### Prajwal makes quarterfinals in singles and doubles

Prajwal Dev beat Joao Graca of Portugal 7-6(3), 6-0 in the pre-quarterfinals of the $30,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Bali on Thursday. Prajwal also made the doubles quarterfinals.

**The results: $160,000 Challenger, Guangzhou: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Alexandr Binda & Ilia Simakin (Ita) bt Arjun Kadhe & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 7-6(4), 2-6, [10-6]; Anirudh Chandrasekar & Reese Stalder (USA) bt Yuichiro Inui & Yuta Kikuchi (Jpn) 7-5, 3-6, [10-5]; Pruchya Isaro (Tha) & Niki Poonacha bt Pavel Kotov & Denis Yevseyev (Kaz) 7-6(5), 6-3; Nathaniel Lammons (USA) & Jean-Julien Rojer (Ned) bt Siddhant Banthia & Ramkumar Ramanathan 6-4, 6-2.
**$100,000 Challenger, Winston Salem, USA: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Patrick Harper (Aus) & Johannus Monday (GBr) bt Sai Karteek Reddy & Ryuki Matsuda (Jpn) 6-4, 6-3.
**$30,000 ITF men, Bali: Singles (pre-quarterfinals):** Prajwal Dev bt Joao Graca (Por) 7-6(3), 6-0; Kazuki Nishiwaki (Jpn) bt Digvijay Pratap Singh 7-6(2), 3-6, 6-4.
**Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Prajwal Dev & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Patricio Alvarado (Ecu) & Stefan Menichella (USA) 3-6, 6-2 [10-6]; Anup Bangargi & Ethan Zapp (Ina) bt Ajay malik & Yash Yadav 6-4, 3-6, [10-7]; Shanker Heisnam & Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Antoine Berger (Fra) & Stefan Storch (Aus) 3-6, 6-1, [10-5]; Rifqi Fitriadi (Ina) & Christopher Rungkat (Ina) bt Parth Aggarwal & Alexey Aleshchev 7-5, 6-1.

### Christian Eriksen signs up with Wolfsburg

Denmark international Christian Eriksen has joined German Bundesliga club Wolfsburg on a free transfer until 2027, the club announced late on Wednesday. Eriksen, 33, had been a free agent since his contract with Manchester United expired in the summer.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**Duleep Trophy:** (final), day 2, Star Sports Khel & JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.
**PKL:** Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.
**Asia Cup:** Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 p.m.
**England vs South Africa:** 2nd T20I, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 11 p.m.
**Bundesliga:** Sony LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday)
**LaLiga:** FanCode, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

# Saransh, Kartikeya have South in a spin

Central gains the advantage on the opening day after a poor batting display by the opposition; Tanmay, the only one to demonstrate some grit

**DULEEP TROPHY FINAL**

**Ashwin Achal**
BENGALURU

A poor batting effort left South Zone in a hole on the first day of the Duleep Trophy final against Central Zone at the BCCI CoE Ground (1) here on Thursday.

Dreadful shot selection, a lack of temperament, and a clumsy run-out caused South Zone to be dismissed for a paltry 149. Spinners Saransh Jain (five for 49) and Kumar Kartikeya (four for 53) kept it tight, and reaped huge rewards.

By cruising along to 50 for no loss by close of play, Central Zone proved that there were no demons in this pitch.

South Zone's sub-standard display began with opener Mohit Kale (9), who attempted a wild slog sweep to left-arm spinner Kartikeya. Kale completely missed and lost his stumps. Karnataka batter R. Smaran, drafted in as a replacement for Devdutt Padikkal, similarly threw away his wicket. Smaran miscued a hoick off Kartikeya, and offered a catch to mid-wicket.

**You miss, I hit:** Kale fell to Kartikeya attempting a wild slog while five-wicket hero Saransh triggered South's collapse. K. MURALI KUMAR

Tanmay Agarwal (31, 76b, 3x4) showed some grit, until a comical mix-up sent him back.

Coming back for a second, Tanmay slammed into partner Ricky Bhui in the middle of the pitch, and was run-out by miles.

Skipper Mohammed Azharuddeen was the rare batter to fall purely to the bowler's skill. A beauty from Kartikeya pitched outside leg, squared Azharuddeen up, and fizzed across to hit off-stump.

Off-spinner Saransh entered the action, scalping Ricky Bhui (15) leg-before. With plenty of loop and turn, Saransh then enticed Andre Siddarth (12) out of the crease. Siddarth played all over it, allowing wicket-keeper Upendra Yadav to effect a smart stumping.

Salman Nizar (24) and Ankit Sharma (20) hung around, but there would be no stopping Central's march.

**Grabbing the chance**

Kartikeya, who did not feature in the previous two rounds of this tournament, was thrilled to grab this opportunity. Kartikeya, who bowls orthodox and wrist spin with equal efficiency, was not picked for the zonal teams in the last two seasons despite fine performances in the Ranji Trophy.

"I was picked for this match because some players were selected for the India-A team.

"It was very important for me to grab this chance," Kartikeya said.

**The scores:**
South Zone 149 in 63 overs (Tanmay 31, Kartikeya 4/53, Saransh 5/49) vs Central Zone 50/0 in 19 overs.

# MP registers thrilling win over KSCA XI

**THIMMAPPIAH CRICKET**

**Sports Bureau**

K.V. Aneesh's 86 (113b, 5x4, 3x6) went in vain as KSCA XI lost to Madhya Pradesh by 13 runs in the KSCA-Dr. (Capt.) K. Thimmappiah Memorial tournament match at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Thursday.

On a day when matches at five other grounds in the city were non-starters because of overnight rain, the superior drainage system at the Chinnaswamy helped.

Madhya Pradesh, beginning on 150 for four and a lead of 174, was dismissed for 215, with left-armer Abhilash Shetty scalping four (four for 28).

Chasing a 240-run target, KSCA, seemed primed for victory, first at 96 for one and then at 144 for three.

But Adheer Pratap Singh, who had claimed eight wickets in the first essay, added four more (four for 79), and was ably supported by Aryan Pandey (three for 46) and Kulwant Khejroliya (three for 36) as KSCA folded for 226.

Aneesh was the ninth man out, and a 26-run association between Abhilash and Vidwath Kaverappa (19, 17b, 1x4, 2x6) raised hopes for a brief while before that flame was doused too.

**In vain:** Aneesh's 86 was not enough. FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

**The scores (day three): In Bengaluru:** Madhya Pradesh CA 162 & 215 in 68.3 overs (Harsh Gawli 40, Yash Dubey 46, Harshit Yadav 42, Abhilash Shetty 4/28) bt KSCA XI 138 in 44.3 overs & 226 in 60 overs (K.V. Aneesh 86, Adheer Pratap Singh 4/79).

Gujarat 262 in 102.5 overs (Aarya Desai 51, Manan Hingrajia 90) vs. Mumbai 222/6 in 75 overs.

KSCA Secretary's XI 315 in 98.5 overs vs. Assam 140 in 36.5 overs & 54/2 in 33.1 overs.

Maharashtra 136 in 41 overs & 127/2 in 43 overs (Yash Kshirsagar 65 batting) vs. Goa 333 in 90.3 overs.

Vidarbha 383 in 110.5 overs vs KSCA President's XI 191/7 in 57 overs (S.U. Karthik 82, Sharath Srinivas 51, Lalit Yadav 3/37).

Tripura 314 in 113.5 overs vs Chhattisgarh 169/1 in 55 overs (Rishabh Tiwari 58, Anuj Tiwari 90 batting).

**In Mysuru:** Himachal Pradesh 515/8 in 158.2 overs (Ankush Bains 109, Ankit Kalsi 214 n.o., Ekant Sen 72, Prince Thakur 48) vs Baroda 245/5 in 75 overs (Jyotsnil 104 batting, Ninad Rathwa 56).

KSCA Colts 450 in 106.5 overs & 189/8 decl. in 48.5 overs vs Andhra CA 223 in 64.3 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 84, P. Girinath Reddy 43) & 90/2 in 30 overs (K. Maheep Kumar 42 batting).

## SNAPSHOTS

### Ayush stuns Naraoka, joins Lakshya and Satwik-Chirag in last eight

Rising Indian shuttler Ayush Shetty caused a major upset at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 badminton tournament on Thursday, ousting 2023 World Championships silver medallist Kodai Naraoka of Japan 21-19, 12-21, 21-14 and storm into the men's quarterfinals.

In another match, Lakshya Sen rallied past compatriot H.S. Prannoy 15-21 21-18 21-10. However, Kiran George lost to Taiwan's Chou Tien Chen 6-21, 21-12.

In doubles, World No. 9 Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty scored a 18-21, 21-15, 21-11 win over the Thai duo of P. Sukphun and P. Teerarratsakul.

In women's doubles, China's Li Yi Jing and Luo Xu Min beat the Panda sisters Rutaparna and Swetaparna 21-13, 21-7.

### Dhakshineshwar to open India's campaign against Switzerland

Dhakshineswar Suresh will carry the hopes of the Indian team when he plays the first singles match against Jerome Kym in the Davis Cup World Group-1 tie in Biel, Switzerland, on Friday.

"Happy that Dhakshineswar plays first. He is in good form, and we are hoping to get a good start. The first day is always crucial," said skipper Rohit Rajpal after the draw ceremony.

While the team brought in Dhakshineswar in place of Karan Singh, it was forced to make another change, as the US Open doubles semifinalist Yuki Bhambri was suffering from a heel injury.

Rithvik Bollipalli, ranked 71, the third-best Indian doubles player behind Yuki and Rohan Bopanna, walked into the squad to partner the 75th ranked Sriram Balaji.

India will bank on the return of its No. 1 Sumit Nagal, ranked 290. He was ranked a career-best 68 last year, and would attempt to pull his weight for the team after having stayed away for the last two ties.

India has a 2-1 win-loss record against Switzerland. The last time the two teams met was in 1993, when Leander Paes and Ramesh Krishnan saw the team past Marc Rosset and Jakob Hlasek 3-2 on the grass courts of the South Club in Kolkata.

**The draw: On Friday:** Jerome Kym vs. Dhakshineswar Suresh (5.30 p.m.); Marc-Andrea Huesler vs. Sumit Nagal.
**On Saturday:** Jakub Paul & Dominic Stricker vs. Sriram Balaji & Rithvik Bollipally; Kym vs. Nagal; Huesler vs. Dhakshineswar.

## BENGALURU ROUND-UP

### Minerva Public School emerges champion

Minerva Public School, Mohali (CISCE) beat Vidyachal International School, Muzaffarpur (Bihar) 6-0 to win the sub-junior boys title at the 64th edition of Subroto Cup international football tournament at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka, on Thursday.

**The result (final):** Minerva 6 (Mahesh 4, 50+1, Letgouhao Kipgen 19, 35, Bickson 37, Rimoson 42) bt Vidyachal 0.

### Shyam, Aashi win titles

Shyam Bindiganavile and Aashi Das emerged the U-17 boys' and girls' singles champions respectively in the Yonex Sunrise Karnataka U-15 & U-17 State-ranking badminton tournament.

**Smiles all around:** The winners in Yonex Sunrise Karnataka U-15 & U-17 State-ranking badminton. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**The results (finals): U-17: Boys:** Shyam Bindiganavile bt Mehul Manav Arulmurugan 21-16, 21-17; **girls:** Aashi Das bt Nidhi Atmaram 23-21, 21-13.

**Doubles: Boys:** K. Yadunandan & Yeshas M. Reddy bt Chirag Prakash & N.D. Niketan Hari 21-10, 23-21; **girls:** Nidhi Atmaram & Selvasamruddhi Selvaprabhu bt Disha Ravi Bhat & Tanvi Munoth 21-13, 21-14.

**Mixed doubles:** Chirag Prakash & Tanvi Munoth bt Shivaraj Kabberalli and Gamya Divyananda 21-11, 21-18.

**U-15: Boys:** C. Vihaan bt Devansh Chowdhury 14-21, 21-16, 21-16; **girls:** Dhanya Manjunatha bt Kandibilla Shreya 21-15, 21-17.

**Doubles: Boys:** Aarav Swaminathan & Eswar Sai Katam bt Gautham S. Nair & Siddharth S. Nair bt 21-14, 21-18; **girls:** Kandibilla Shreya & P. Shree Naga Lakshmi bt Keerthi Balaji & Shriya Joshi 21-14, 21-18.

**Mixed doubles:** Eswar Sai Katam & N. Raksha bt Adrien Edward & Supreetha Deepak 21-18, 21-15.

### Parikrma FC posts win

Parikrma FC defeated ASC & Centre FC 2-0 in the BDFA Super Division League football on Thursday.

**The result:** Parikrma FC 2 (Soubam Ronaldo Singh (OG) 56, Thangjalen Haokip 90+1) bt ASC & Centre FC 0; MEG & Centre FC 0 drew with Roots FC 0.

# Magnetar for F.K. Irani Memorial Million

MYSURU: Magnetar, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the F.K. Irani Memorial Million (1,200m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Friday (Sept 12). False rails (width about 6m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

**1 PADDOCK PLATE** (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 2-30 p.m.: 1. Forest View (7) Faiz 62.5, 2. Saffron Breeze (6) A. Hangal 62.5, 3. Pette's Choice (5) Prabhu K 61, 4. Seductive (3) S. Imran 60, 5. Rich Strike (4) Ayaz Khan 56, 6. D Admiral (2) Dhanu S 55.5, 7. Gentleman's Word (8) Gautam Raj 55 and 8. Warrior Woman (1) Antony 53.5.
**1. WARRIOR WOMAN, 2. D ADMIRAL, 3. SEDUCTIVE**

**2 SECUNDERABAD PLATE** (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 3-00: 1. Davids Delight (8) Noorulla 62.5, 2. Clyde Star (1) Ankit Pal 61.5, 3. Eco System (2) Ramesh K 61, 4. Raffles (10) L.A. Rozario 60, 5. Emeraldo (6) A. Ramu 57.5, 6. Golden Gallery (11) Vinod Shinde 56, 7. N R I Gold (3) Faiz 56, 8. Basic Instinct (7) N.B. Kuldeep 55.5, 9. Lead Singer (4) M. Prabhakaran 53.5, 10. Chiraag (9) Hindu S 53 and 11. Bourbon Bay (5) Shreyas S 52.
**1. RAFFLES, 2. GOLDEN GALLERY, 3. CHIRAAG**

**3 POLICE TROPHY** (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. The Golden Sunrise (5) Abhishek Mhatre 60, 2. Court Jester (4) Faiz 57.5, 3. Sparkling Night (8) Brijesh K 57.5, 4. Creative Girl (3) Antony 55.5, 5. Amazing Arise (2) Afsar Khan 54.5, 6. Sherouk (7) Vinod Shinde 54, 7. Bountiful Beauty (6) C. Umesh 53 and 8. Falcon Fury (1) S. Imran 52.
**1. CREATIVE GIRL, 2. BOUNTIFUL BEAUTY, 3. FALCON FURY**

**4 F.K. IRANI MEMORIAL MILLION** (1,200m), 3-y-o, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Magnetar (1) Akshay K 57, 2. Midnight Blue (3) Antony 54, 3. Republican Star (5) Rayan 54, 4. Splendid Dream (2) Shreyas S 54 and 5. Devate (4) L.A. Rozario 52.5.
**1. MAGNETAR, 2. SPLENDID DREAM**

**5 M.W. CHINNAPPA MEMORIAL TROPHY** (1,200m), rated 60 & above, 4-30: 1. Pneuma (8) Pavan 64, 2. Absolutechallenger (9) H. Rahul 60, 3. The Flying Feet (7) A. Ramu 60, 4. Dun It Again (3) Jagadeesh 59.5, 5. Jersey King (6) Antony 58.5, 6. Brave Trooper (5) Md. Imran Ashraf 56.5, 7. Metzinger (4) Vivek 55, 8. Serrano (1) Hindu S 54 and 9. Knotty Blush (2) P. Sai Kumar 51.
**1. KNOTTY BLUSH, 2. JERSEY KING, 3. SERRANO**

**6 JOG FALLS PLATE** (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Sandal Queen (6) M. Prabhakaran 61.5, 2. Tolkien (1) Antony 61.5, 3. She's Unstoppable (5) Ayaz Khan 58.5, 4. Sea Diamond (3) Asirvatham 58, 5. Sunway Lagoon (4) A. Ramu 57, 6. Authentic Bell (8) S. Imran 56, 7. Thrill Of Brazil (9) Dhanu S 56, 8. War Trail (2) Vinod Shinde 56, 9. Striking Viking (12) Rayan 55, 10. Supreme Success (7) Akshay K 55, 11. Sian (11) Gautam Raj 54.5 and 12. Acantha (10) P. Sai Kumar 54.
**1. TOLKIEN, 2. SUPREME SUCCESS, 3. THRILL OF BRAZIL**
Day's best: **KNOTTY BLUSH**
Double: **MAGNETAR - TOLKIEN**
Jkt: 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; Mini Jkt: 3, 4, 5 and 6; Tr (i): 1, 2 and 3; (ii): 4, 5 and 6.

# Magnetic obliges in the feature event

MYSURU: Darius Byramji-trained Magnetic (Trevor up) won the Dennis & Yvonne Jarvis Memorial Cup (1,600m), the main event of the races held here on Thursday (Sept 11). The winner is owned by Ms. Ameeta Mehra, Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala & Mr. Chaduranga Kanthraj Urs. *The Hindu* cleared the card by tipping all the seven winners.

**THE RESULTS:**

**1. SHIVAKASHI PLATE (1,200M): JUST BLUES** (Arvind K) 1, Eye The Mind (S. Imran) 2, Fashionista (Pavan) 3 and City Of Hustle (Hasib Alam) 4. 2-1/2, 1 and Snk. 1m, 12.11s. ₹16 (w), 15, 23 and 13 (p), SHP: 98, THP: 27, FP: 205, Q: 141, Trinella: 108/496, Exacta: 2,200/1,212. Favourite: Just Blues. Owner: Mr. K.V. Sridhara. Trainer: G.T. Surender.

**2. M.S. SURESH MEMORIAL TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,400M): TRUE PUNCH** (Antony) 1, Klimt (Dhanu S) 2, Sapient (Abhishek Mhatre) 3 and IL Volo (Vivek) 4. 2, 1-1/4 and 2-1/2. 1m, 23.85s. ₹27 (w), 11, 12 and 14 (p), SHP: 34, THP: 36, FP: 51, Q: 16, Trinella: 135/158, Exacta: 266/133. Favourite: Klimt. Owner: Mr. Anil Saraf. Trainer: M. Rajesndra Singh.

**3. REGENCY GOLD PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200M): NOBLE CAUSE** (L.A. Rozario) 1, Chisox (A. Hangal) 2, Abnegator (Gagandeep Maan) 3 and Meghann (Laxman S) 4. Not run: Golden Beast. 1-3/4, 6-1/4 and 1-1/4. 1m, 11.69s. ₹16 (w), 11, 19 and 31 (p), SHP: 49, THP: 72, FP: 131, Q: 95, Trinella: 714/439, Exacta: 2,998/856. Favourite: Noble Cause. Owner: Mr. M. Venkatesh. Trainer: S. Dominic.

**4. M.S. SURESH MEMORIAL TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,400M): POWER OF BEAUTY** (Antony) 1, Eternal Glory (Trevor) 2, Ladylion (R. Robert) 3 and Serdar (L.A. Rozario) 4. 9-1/4, Lnk and 1/2. 1m, 23.15s. ₹16 (w), 10, 10 and 36 (p), SHP: 20, THP: 86, FP: 20, Q: 15, Trinella: 319/351, Exacta: 1,474/513. Favourite: Power Of Beauty. Owners: Dr. C.N. Devayya & Mr. K. Pradeep Annaiah. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.

**5. DENNIS & YVONNE JARVIS MEMORIAL CUP (1,600M): MAGNETIC** (Trevor) 1, Kanya Rashi (Antony) 2, Confident Game (Hindu S) 3 and Forseti (L.A. Rozario) 4. 3-3/4, 1-1/4 and 3/4. 1m, 35.45s. ₹14 (w), 12, 12 and 14 (p), SHP: 24, THP: 28, FP: 24, Q: 18, Trinella: 59/52, Exacta: 43/112/ Favourite: Magnetic. Owners: Ms. Ameeta Mehra, Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala & Mr. Chaduranga Kanthraj Urs. Trainer: Darius Byramji.

**6. REGENCY GOLD PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200M): ZIVA** (Suhas K) 1, Mark One (Prabhu K) 2, Moana (Pavan) 3 and Able One (Asirvatham) 4. Lnk, 4-1/4 and 1/2. 1m, 11.49s. ₹23 (w), 10, 27 and 12 (p), SHP: 73, THP: 48, FP: 383, Q: 221, Trinella: 471/140, Exacta: 1,338/730. Favourite: Ziva. Owners: Mr. H.K. Lakshman Gowda, Mr. Sharath M. Narayana & Mr. V. Lokanath. Trainer: V. Lokanath.

**7. TALAKADA PLATE (1,400M): CLOUDY HILLS** (Mukesh K) 1, One Diamond (Faiz) 2, Sarvottam (C. Umesh) 3 and Money Exchange (Ayaz Khan) 4. 7-1/4, 1-1/4 and 3/4. 1m, 24.01s. ₹50 (w), 18, 23 and 29 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 36, FP: 328, Q: 132, Trinella: 697/728, Exacta: 1,477/457. Favourite: Money Exchange. Owners: Mr. Rajendran rep. Rapar's Galloping Stars LLP. Trainer: M. Bobby.

Jackpot: ₹312 (62 tkts.); Mini Jackpot: 143 (seven tkts.); Treble (i): 120 (nine tkts.); (ii): 19 (74 tkts.).

THE HINDU GROUP

# WHERE THE GAME MEETS ITS FUTURE.

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## Day 1 — Agenda

**10:05 AM -** Welcome Address by **Ayon Sengupta**, *Editor - Sportstar*

**10:10 AM -** Address by **Dr. Nirmala Lakshman**, *Chairperson of The Hindu Group*

**10:15 AM -** Speech by **Smt. PT Usha**, *Honourable President, Indian Olympic Association*

**10:20 AM -** *Unveiling of KPMG Sportstar India Business of Sports Report by H'ble Union Sports Minister* **Shri. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**

**10:25 AM -** *Inaugural Address by* **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**

**10:40 AM - 10:50 AM -** *Inauguration and Walkthrough of the Sports Tech and Manufacturing Expo by* **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**

**10:55 AM - 11:35 PM - India in a League of its Own: How India Shapes Global Sport**

**Arun Dhumal**
*(Chairman, IPL)*

**Anupam Goswami**
*(Business Head – Mashal & League Commissioner - Pro Kabaddi)*

**Rajah Chaudhry**
*(Head of Strategy, Asia Pacific & Country Head - India, NBA)*

**Vita Dani**
*(Co-Owner, Chennaiyin FC, Chairperson- Ultimate Table Tennis and promoter, Dani Sports Foundation)*

**11:40 AM - 12:00 PM - Breaking Down the National Sports Governance Act.**

**Kunal**
*(Joint Secretary, Governance, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)*

**Vidushpat Singhania**
*(Partner, Krida Legal)*

**12:05 PM - 12:15 PM - PRESENTATION: KPMG Sportstar India Business of Sports Report**

**12:15 PM - 12:45 PM - Building the Arenas of Tomorrow: Sports Infrastructure**

**Ramkumar Subramanian**
*(Director, Collage Design)*

**Rushdee Warley**
*(High Performance Sport Consultant)*

**Sushant Pardeshi**
*(Director - Infrastructure, Shiv Naresh Sports Pvt Ltd.)*

**Maninder Pal Singh**
*(Secretary General, Cycling Federation of India)*

**12:50 PM - 1:30 PM - Stadiums Without Walls: Building the Next Fan Universe**

**Siddharth Sharma**
*(Head, Viewership and Monetisation Initiative, Sports-JioStar)*

**Veer Damaraju**
*(EVP, Technology, DAZN India)*

**Aneesh Madani**
*(Former Head of Partnerships & Innovation, International Olympic Committee)*

**Nikhil Bansal**
*(Head - Gaming & eServices, Google India)*

**01:30 PM - 02:30 PM**
**LUNCH AND NETWORKING**

**02:30 PM - 03:10 PM Moneyball India: Where Capital Meets Competition**

**Satyam Trivedi**
*(CEO, GMR Sports)*

**Sanjay Adesara**
*(CEO, Adani Sportsline)*

**Divyanshu Singh**
*(CEO, JSW Sports)*

**Uditvanu Das**
*(Associate Vice President, Head of Sports, Havas Play India)*

**03:15 PM - 04:00 PM Athlete Economy and Influence: Nurturing India's Olympic Movement**

**Neerav Tomar**
*(CEO & MD, IOS Sports & Entertainment)*

**Sumit Antil**
*(Paralympic Champion, Javelin Throw)*

**Rani Rampal**
*(Olympian, Former India Hockey Captain)*

**Vijender Singh**
*(Olympic Bronze Medallist, Boxing)*

**Manpreet Singh**
*(Olympic Bronze Medallist, Hockey)*

**04:00 PM - 04:25 PM**
**STATE SHOWCASE - TAMIL NADU**

Presentation by **J. Meghanatha Reddy IAS**
*(Member Secretary and CEO, Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority)*

Grassroots to Glory: Tamil Nadu's Olympic Dream - ft. **Dr. Atulya Misra IAS**
*(Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Youth Welfare and Sports Development)*

**04:30 PM - 05:00 PM**
**Made in India - The Manufacturing Muscle**

**Vivek Kohli**
*(Owner, Stag International)*

**Dr. Kanishka Pandey**
*(Faculty and Head - Centre for Sports Research, IMT Ghaziabad)*

**05:00 PM Onwards**
**Sportstar World Para Athletics Championships Special Edition Unveiling by Shri. Arvinder Singh Sahney**
*(Chairman, IndianOil)*

## Day 2 — Agenda

**10:30 AM - 11:10 AM Young Turks - A New Sporting Vision for New India**

**Hannah Muthoot**
*(Director of Sport, Muthoot Pappachan Group)*

**Akhilesh Reddy**
*(Chairman & Managing Director, Racing Promotions Pvt. Ltd.)*

**Suhail Chandhok**
*(CEO, U Mumba & Co-Founder, Elev8 India Sportz)*

**11:15 AM - 11:55 AM Wired for Winning: Tech, AI & the Science of Sport**

**Iris Cordoba Mondejar**
*(Managing Director, GSIC Powered by Microsoft)*

**Alan Davis**
*(Marketing Head, CricViz)*

**Chintan Shah**
*(SVP – Teams, Leagues & Federations, Sportz Interactive)*

**12:00 PM - 12:15 PM PRESENTATION:**

**Dilsher Singh Malhi**
*(Founder and CEO, Zupee)*

**12:20 PM - 12:50 PM Purpose Play: CSR, Inclusion & Sport for All**

**Sminu Jindal**
*(Managing Director, Jindal SAW Ltd)*

**Anupam Nidhi**
*(Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Vedanta Group & Hindustan Zinc)*

**Neelam Babardesai**
*(Head of Sports, Tata Trusts)*

**12:50 PM - 1:00 PM STATE SHOWCASE - UTTAR PRADESH**

Presentation by **Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj IAS**
*(Secretary Sports of UP Government)*

**01:00 PM - 02:15 PM - LUNCH AND NETWORKING**

**2:15 PM - 3:00 PM New Frontiers in Sports: Play, Fitness and More**

**Deepak Raj**
*(Country Head, Ironman India)*

**Sameer Pathak**
*(President, Pickleball)*

**Neha Parab Kandalgaonkar**
*(Vice President & Head of Corporate Communications, Procam International)*

**Parvin Dabas**
*(Co-Founder, Pro Panja League)*

**Tuhin Mishra**
*(MD & Co-Founder at Baseline Ventures, Promoter, Prime Volleyball League)*

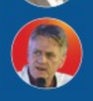
**3:00 PM - 3:15 PM Spotlight Session: Innovation in Sport - Microsoft Perspective**

**Iris Cordoba Mondejar**
*(Managing Director, GSIC Powered by Microsoft)*

**3:20 PM - 4:00 PM Beyond the Game: Building Careers in Sports**

**Nilesh Kulkarni**
*(Founder-Director, International Institute of Sports Management)*

**Dr. Amit Bhalla**
*(Vice President, Manav Rachna University)*


**John Gloster**
*(Head Physio, Rajasthan Royals)*

**4:05 PM - 4:40 PM Gameplan 2036: India's Global Event Ambitions**

**Hari Ranjan Rao IAS**
*(Secretary, Sports, Govt. of India)*

**Gagan Narang**
*(Olympic Bronze Medallist, Shooting and Vice President, Indian Olympic Association)*

**Achanta Sharath Kamal**
*(Olympian, Vice Chairperson, Athletes Commission, IOA)*

**Devendra Jhajharia**
*(President, Paralympic Committee of India)*

**4:45 PM - 4: 55 PM STATE SHOWCASE - PUNJAB**

Presentation by **Harpreet Singh Sudan IAS**
*(Director - Sports, Govt of Punjab)*

**5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Fireside Chat: Leadership & Life Beyond the Pitch**

**Kapil Dev**
*(1983 World Cup-winning India captain)*

**September 12 & 13, 2025**
**10 AM Onwards.**

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Three-wheelers (Passenger & Goods):
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**28%, now 18%**

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The pictorial representation of the Map of India does not purport to be the Political Map of India.

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